

Sept. 1997

Contemporary English Bible designed 'for ear as well as eye'

By **WILLIAM SIMBRO**
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

The American Bible Society will introduce the new Contemporary English Version of the Bible in a series of workshops Sept. 24-27 in central and north-central Iowa.

The Bible Society says the new version is "crafted to be read aloud without stumbling, heard without misunderstanding, and listened to with enjoyment by people of all ages and educational backgrounds. This new translation is intended for the ear as well as the eye."

Worldwide, more than 100 translators, consultants and reviewers were involved for more than 10 years in the process of producing the Contemporary English Version of the Bible. The translation team was led by Barclay M. Newman, the American Bible Society's senior translation officer. The new version's New Testament appeared in the 1960s and the complete Bible was published in June.

Translated directly from the original languages, the version "faithfully communicates the meaning of the Biblical text in a lucid and lyrical style, which is appropriate both for public reading and for memorizing," says a publicity release from the American Bible Society.

Founded in 1816, the American Bible Society is an inter-denominational and not-for-profit mission organiza-

tion that translates, publishes and distributes the Bible throughout the United States and, in cooperation with the United Bible Societies, around the world.

People attending the Iowa workshops will be given a Contemporary English Version. The first 25 attending will receive a Bible at the workshop, and the rest will receive their Bible by mail.

A complimentary continental breakfast at the 9 a.m. workshops and refreshments at the 2 and 7 p.m. workshops will be served.

Delores Trickel of the American Bible Society will conduct the workshops.

The workshop schedule:

• Sept. 24 — 7 p.m., United Methodist Church, Knoxville.

• Sept. 25 — 2 p.m., Sheridan Park United Methodist Church, 4100 E. Sheridan Ave., Des Moines; 7 p.m., St. Mark Lutheran Church, 801 12th St., West Des Moines.

• Sept. 26 — 9 a.m., Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines; 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 206 S.W. Walnut St., Ankeny.

• Sept. 27 — 9 a.m., Calvary United Methodist Church, Ames; 2 p.m., First Baptist Church, Webster City; 7 p.m., First Congregational Church, Iowa Falls.

Another series of workshops will be held in eastern Iowa Oct. 5-7.

■ **"The Denial of Evil and the Pursuit of Innocence: Understanding Evil in Our Midst"** is the theme of a workshop Aug. 23 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. J. Jeffrey Means and Mary Ann Nelson, clinical staff members of the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center, will lead the workshop. Cost is \$20. Registration deadline is Aug. 21. For more information, call (515) 274-4006. 8/10/96

10-5-96
■ **A weekly adult education** series on the meaning of being an open and affirming congregation will be held Sunday through Oct. 27 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Speakers are the Rev. David Ruhe of Plymouth; the Rev. Charles Briem, associate conference minister of the Iowa Conference, United Church of Christ; the Rev. Martha Hendricks of Plymouth; and Dan Spencer, associate professor of religion and ethics at Drake University.



Patricia M. Darby, 72, of 4609 Woodland Ave., West Des Moines, died of a respiratory ailment Friday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church of Christ, of which she was

a member. Burial of the cremains will be in Greenfield Cemetery at a later date.

Mrs. Darby was born in Des Moines and lived in the area most of her life. She was a retired service writer with Meredith Corp.

Surviving are two sons, John of Des Moines and Jerry of Ottumwa; a brother, Bill Shope of Santa Ana, Calif.; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the University of Iowa Alumni Fund. Arrangements are being handled by Hamilton's Funeral Home.

OBITUARIES

10/30/96
Wayne B. Brownfield, 80, of 6424 Sunset Terrace, Windsor Heights, died of cancer Tuesday at home.



Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery.

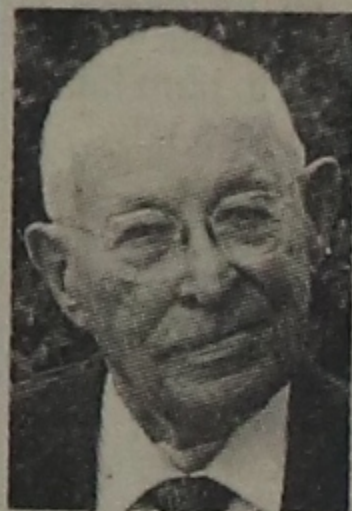
Mr. Brownfield was born in Melcher and moved to Windsor Heights in 1939. He retired from Northwestern Bell Telephone and was an Army veteran of World War II and a member of Westgate Masonic Lodge, Des Moines Consistory, Za-Ga-Zig Shrine and Telephone Pioneers. He was also a Boy Scout leader.

Surviving are his wife, Louise; a son, Steven of Omaha; a daughter, Peggy Brownfield of Urbandale; a sister, Wanda Wright of Melcher-Dallas; and two grandchildren.

The family will visit with friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Westover Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Shriner's Hospitals for Children.

OBITUARIES

7/1/96
Jack P. Cleveland, 88, of 405 37th St. died of a respiratory ailment Saturday at Calvin Manor, 4210 Hickman Road.



The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which he was a member. Private burial of

the cremains will be at Glendale Cemetery.

Mr. Cleveland was born in Clarinda and lived in Des Moines most of his life. He was a retired vice president with the State Auto Insurance Association, an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and a member of Waveland Park Masonic Lodge, Za Ga Zig Shrine, Des Moines Consistory, Royal Order of Jesters and Golden Kiwanis.

Survivors include his wife, Bothilda; and a son, William of Vancouver, Canada.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Acres of the Convalescent Home for Children in Johnston. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

7/11/96
Irene S. Spring, 87, of 1800 36th St., West Des Moines, died of a blood disorder Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.



Services will be graveside at 1 p.m. Friday in Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Spring, who retired as a comptometer operator, was born in Creston and

moved to West Des Moines in 1980. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Order of the Eastern Star and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Among survivors are a son, James of Des Moines; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Friends may call from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Merle Hay Funeral Home, where the family will meet with friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or American Cancer Society.

Donations

7/6/96
If you would like to make a financial contribution to help raise funds for the rebuilding of burned **African American churches**, there is a church in Des Moines that can help facilitate it. Plymouth Congregational Church will forward donations to the United Church Board for World Ministries, which in turn will forward it to the National Council of Churches Church World Service office for distribution. You can make checks out to DMARC (Des Moines Area Religious Council) and mail them to Plymouth, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, IA, 50312.

Winnifred Y. Irwin, 97, of 912 45th St. died of a heart ailment Saturday at Urbandale Health Care Center, 4614 N.W. 84th St.



Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at Glendale Cemetery.

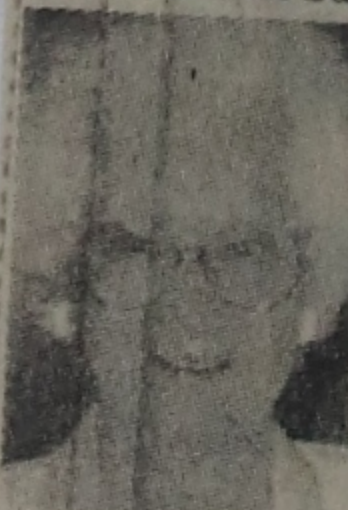
Mrs. Irwin was born in Emmetsburg and lived in

the Des Moines area most of her life. She was a homemaker and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church.

Surviving are three daughters, Martha Jorgensen of Des Moines, Margery Surbaugh of West Des Moines, and Joy Capesius of Colorado Springs, Colo.; a son, Don of Marshalltown; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Friends may call one hour prior to services Monday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to her church. 7/28/96

Gertrude Chitwood, 90, of 1470 Drover Bay Drive, Clive, died of a heart ailment Sunday at Mercy Hos-



pital Medical Center. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at McLaren's Funeral Chapel, with burial in Resthaven Cemetery.

Mrs. Chitwood was born in Danbury, Neb., and

lived in Clive most of her life. She was a homemaker and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church and Order of the Eastern Star.

Among survivors are her husband, Hugh; two daughters, Lynne Wright of West Des Moines and Pat Smith of Des Moines; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral chapel. 7/12/96

8/4/96
Francis P. Taylor, 80, of Riverview Care Center, 701 Riverview Drive, died of complications of Alzheimer's disease there July 28.



Graveside services will be at noon Wednesday at Glendale Cemetery.

Mr. Taylor was born in St. Joseph, Mo., and lived in the Des

Moines area most of his life. He was a retired assistant vice president with Allied Group Insurance, an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriters Society, American Management Society, Junior Achievement and Day Care Services Inc.

Survivors include a daughter, Jane Kieler of Des Moines; a sister, Peg Beeler of Boulder, Colo.; a brother, Emmett Taylor of Orlando, Fla.; and a grandchild.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association.



BOB NANDELL/THE REGISTER

The Rev. Faith Ferre gets paid leave as a benefit of her job at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ. She's taken sabbaticals for religious renewal and education.

9/8/96 FAITH FERRE Spiritual refreshment

The Rev. Faith Ferre, minister of discipleship at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, is entitled to three months away at full pay after each five years of work.

"The clergy need to be doing continuing education all the time, because we preach, we do speaking, we teach," she says. "If you don't continue to fill yourself, you don't have much to give."

INSIDE

■ Melbourne couple journeyed to Hungary.

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Ferre, 49, has taken several leaves to pursue education and renewal.

When she returned from her first one, she says, "I was overwhelmed my first Sunday back, up front in the chancel, with the smiles and affectionate looks I was getting."

It had never occurred to her that she would be missed. "I had gotten into a groove of tedium, doing the same thing over and over, and had not realized fully enough the spiritual dimensions of the work that I do," she reflects now.

"The love that is the basis for all we do in the church felt much more palpable."

Ferre took six weeks last year and will take another six weeks this fall for intensive work toward a doctor of ministry degree. But sabbaticals are not all work; last year she also lost 15 pounds and embarked on a shape-up program.

The Rev. David Ruhe, senior minister at Plymouth, says that in the church, as opposed to the academic world, the purpose of a sabbatical is renewal for ministry rather than research.

The benefit to the congregation, he says, is "You get a new staff person without having to get a new staff person."

Faiths share their differences

Together, Jews and Christians to visit a land holy to both

'We will see Israel through a new perspective,' a Des Moines rabbi says of next year's interfaith trip.

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

Each year, thousands of American Christians and Jews tour the Holy Land to visit the roots of their faith — usually Christians with other Christians and Jews with other Jews.

A profoundly different kind of experience awaits 36 Des Moines-area people of faith — 18 Jews and 18 Christians.

Led by Rabbi Steven Fink of Temple B'nai Jeshurun, Rabbi Neil Sandler of Tifereth Israel Synagogue and the Rev. David Ruhe, pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church

of Christ, the interfaith pilgrims will focus on their common spiritual roots and seek a deeper understanding of — and respect for — both faiths.

Only members of the Jewish community or Plymouth Church will share the initial experience, which may be repeated later. A committee representing the synagogues, the church and the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines has planned the tour, which will cost about \$3,000 for each participant.

"By going with those of a different faith, we will see Israel through a new perspective and will better understand what it means to those who do not share our religious assumptions," Fink said.

The trip is set for Feb. 20 to March 2 next year. But the 36 participants will be doing more than getting passports and packing their bags in the interim.

The Iowa Jewish Historical Society and Plymouth Church will sponsor an Oct. 13 lecture at Tifereth Israel by Rami Avav, chief archeologist of the excavations at Bethsaida. He will describe the sites that the interfaith group will visit in February.

Ruhe, Fink and Sandler will lead about a dozen discussions with the tour group between October and February. The sessions will provide information and — the leaders hope — will build a level of trust that will permit honest and open dialogue on the journey.

"There is a hunger for the understanding and dialogue this trip depicts," Ruhe said last week. "There is tremendous interest and excitement at Plymouth."

Sunday was the first opportunity for Plymouth members to sign up on a first-come basis.

"This will be an exercise in understanding," Ruhe said.

ence. "There is no thought of anyone trying to convert anyone. Christians can't understand Jesus without coming to terms with the fact that he was a Jew."

"Religion is not just a set of beliefs; it is a way of life. For us to visit together the places that have deep meaning for all of us, but sometimes different meanings, will be important. For Christians to worship in a Jewish setting and Jews to worship in a Christian setting will be the opportunity of a lifetime."

Sandler and Fink have traveled to Israel a number of times, and Ruhe was there in 1979.

Sandler said it will be meaningful "to be able to understand and see the holy places and traditions through the eyes of adherents of both religions together. And I hope we will foster relationships that we can build on when we come back from

standing," Ruhe said.

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Behind the Scenes

■ A look at people who bring the arts and entertainment to local audiences.

Choirs & cultures

CAROL STEWART HAS BEEN
WORKING ON THIS MONTH'S
INTERNATIONAL TOURING CHORAL
FESTIVAL FOR TWO YEARS.

By KATHY BERDAN
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Music is the language of the world.

That's no trite T-shirt slogan or poster passage for Carol Stewart. And she'll prove it Saturday night when six men's and boys' choirs from around the planet perform in concert in Des Moines. The concert will raise money for scholarships to the John Grubb YMCA.

It's part of AmericaFest, an international touring choral festival that Stewart has been working on for the last two years.

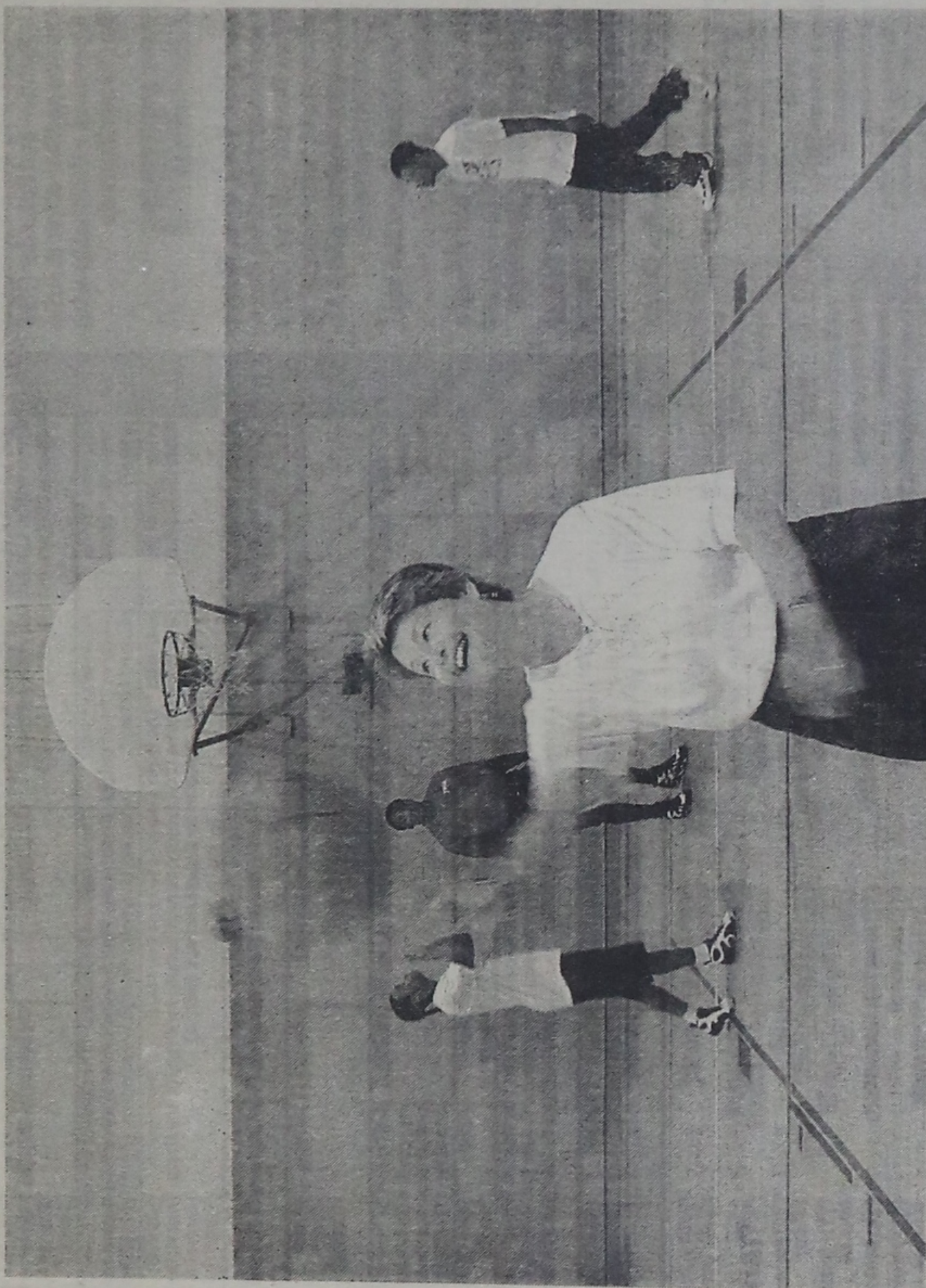
Two years is a lot of devotion to an event, she admits, but "I strongly believe the world needs this kind of endeavor."

AmericaFest is a project of the Alliance for Arts and Understanding. Stewart and others founded the alliance in 1993 after she'd spent 14 years as director of music and fine arts for Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines.

She says she was drawn to the work. "It kept tugging at me."

During her years at Plymouth, Stewart toured internationally with choirs and brought choirs to the city through the Plymouth Fine Arts Series.

The Fairfax, Mo., native graduated from Drake University and taught at Franklin Junior High School when she was 20. Then came a graduate degree in Texas "and I gravitated back to Des Moines." Stewart was choral director at Lincoln High School from 1972 to 1978 and spent three years teaching at Grand View College.



GARY FANDEL/THE REGISTER

Carol Stewart's AmericaFest concert in Des Moines will raise money for scholarships to the John Grubb YMCA.

SING THINGS

■ **What:** AmericaFest International Men and Boys Singing Festival

■ **Who:** American Boychoir from Princeton, N.J.; Adolf Fredriks Gosskor from Stockholm, Sweden; the Quattro Stagioni professional quartet from Oslo, Norway; the Jazeps Medins Men and Boys Choir from Riga, Latvia; The Tallinna Poistekoor from Tallinn, Estonia; and the Roder Jongenskoor from Roden, Holland.

■ **In Des Moines:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, First Methodist Church, 1001 Pleasant St. Tickets: \$10 at the door; discount coupons available at Target stores.

■ **Elsewhere:** For concert details, call 987-1330.

While she was at Grand View, Stewart got involved with the Plymouth Fine Arts program, eventually leaving the college to work there.

A belief that music can foster understanding among cultures drew Stewart to form the Alliance for Arts and Understanding. AmericaFest is the corporation's first major event.

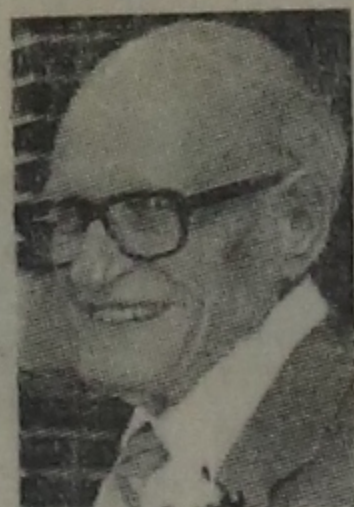
The six international choirs have been at St. John's University near St. Cloud, Minn., this week with 11 choirs from 10 U.S. states. More than 450 men and boys have been singing together and performing at St. John's and in St. Cloud this week.

The six choirs perform Saturday night in Des Moines, part of a tour of Midwest states with some "hometown" aspects in Iowa. Choirs from Norway and Sweden will sing in Story City, a group from the Netherlands stops in Pella and the Scandinavian singers will be in Decorah.

Stewart says the concerts will appeal to those who might not normally enjoy a choral concert.

"The general public adores to hear men and boys sing. It's extremely attractive to anyone."

6/11/96
John K. Rounds Sr., 82, of 6308 Colby Ave., Windsor Heights, died of emphysema Sunday at Iowa Methodist



ist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. Burial will be in Glendale Cemetery.

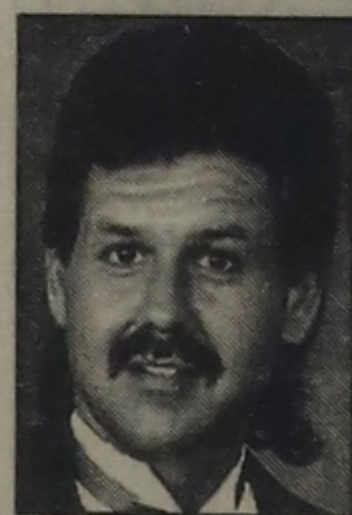
tery.

Mr. Rounds was born in Des Moines and lived in the area most of his life, returning from Chariton and Chicago. He retired as service manager for Meyercord Co., was a Navy veteran of World War II and had been a member of the Heart of Hawkeye Council of Camp Fires and Des Moines Pioneer Club.

Among survivors are his wife, Patricia; a son, John Jr. of Albuquerque, N.M.; three daughters, Barbara Swafford of Fort Worth, Texas, Carol Sands of Dallas, Texas, and Judith Rounds of Golden, Colo.; two sisters, Madeline Woods of Des Moines and Josephine Rounds of Gorham, Maine; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Friends may call after 3 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will meet friends from 3 to 6 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Camp Fire Boys and Girls.

6/22/96
Tom L. Janssen, 47, of Tannersville, Pa., died of a bacterial infection June 5 at Easton (Pa.) Hospital.



The body was cremated and no services are planned.

Mr. Janssen was born in Lake City and lived in Des Moines until 1989. He was formerly the choral music teacher at Ankeny High School and Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Among survivors are two daughters, Anna Krull and Kate Janssen, both of Ankeny; his parents, Harold and Beulah Janssen, and two brothers, Terry and Ted, all of Lake City.

A memorial reception will be from 2 to 4 p.m. June 29 at Lake City Union Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central Iowa. William Clark Funeral Home in Stroudsburg, Pa., handled arrangements.

BRIEFLY IN RELIGION

Salzburg Choir in concert

6/15/96
The Salzburg Choir of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ will perform a pre-tour concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the church, 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

The group is composed of Chancel Choir members who will leave June 22 to participate in the American Church Music Festival in Austria.

6/25/97
Marguerite Elizabeth Stouffer, 89, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of a respiratory



ailment Monday at Kavanagh House on Grand in West Des Moines. Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was

a member. Burial will be at Woodland Cemetery.

Mrs. Stouffer, a homemaker, was born in Freemont, Ohio, and lived in Des Moines most of her life.

She is survived by three sons, Stephen of Tulsa, Okla., Scott of Des Moines and David of West Des Moines; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Friends may call after 3 p.m. Thursday at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will receive friends from 7 to 9 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to her church.

6/16/96
Ruth Evelyn Buckles, 83, of 5612 Urbandale Ave. died of a lung ailment Friday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.



Graveside services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Glendale Cemetery.

Mrs. Buckles was born in Atlantic and lived in Des Moines many years. She was a

retired chief financial officer with the Iowa Department of Rehabilitation and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Des Moines Audubon Society, Iowa Ornithologist Union and the Iowa State Historical Society.

A brother, Merritt Dallinger of Huxley, survives.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 8 p.m. today at Westover Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to her church or the Des Moines Audubon Society.

Jeanne A. Isley, 78, of 3663 Grand Ave. died of a heart ailment Monday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body was cremated and no services are planned.

Mrs. Isley, a homemaker, was born in Santa Ana, Calif., and moved to Des Moines in 1992 after living in Florida, California and Illinois. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and Daughters of the Nile.

Among survivors are a son, Philip of Windsor Heights; a daughter, Janice Hellstern of Rowlett, Texas; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Boys Town in Omaha. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. 6/26/96

Marjorie E. Jones, 78, of 4821 N.W. 86th St., Urbandale, died Tuesday at Mercy Hospital Medical



Center of complications of diabetes. Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial will be

in Glendale Cemetery.

Mrs. Jones, who retired as a health aide for Edina, Minn., public schools, was born in Minneapolis and moved to Des Moines in 1983.

She is survived by two daughters, Susan Raye of Des Moines and Janet Lieb of Green Bay, Wis.; two sisters, Bonnie Bertel of Winona, Minn., and Elinor Brown of Jacksonville, Tenn.; and five grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association or her church. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Vocal types

► Acclaimed classical vocal ensemble **Chanticleer** performs "Ave Maria," "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day" and other seasonal favorites, 3 p.m. Sunday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Tickets for the Plymouth Fine Arts Series concert cost \$10. Call 255-3149.

Frances R. James, 82, of 1100 46th St. died of cancer Sunday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Westover Funeral Home, and burial of the remains will be private.



Mrs. James was born in Milwaukee and moved to Des Moines in 1941 from Oskaloosa. She had worked for the secretary of state the last 33 years and before that she taught school in Des Moines. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

A sister, Patricia J. Harker of Des Moines, survives.

Friends may call at the funeral home one hour before services.

Formal and fun. One guest called it "the most fun, grown-up wedding" she'd ever seen.

Attended by their own adult children, Jackie Saunders and Cecil Goettsch were married Sunday evening at Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines, and then they hosted 300 people for dinner at the Des Moines Golf and Country Club.

It was beautiful and formal — but without being one bit stuffy.

Saunders is director of public relations at Meredith Corp. Goettsch is a consulting attorney and our bike-riding buddy.

"They're both real music fans, as witnessed by their commissioning of special songs as wedding gifts to each other. The bride's gift to the groom was "Go Not Far for Beauty," with words from a 150-year-old poem and music by Des Moines composer Alice Jordan. Plymouth Church's super-soprano Sharon Parker-Lenihan sang it at the wedding.

The groom's song for the bride was an arrangement by Des Moines' Don Fraser of "When I Fall in Love." Goettsch sang it at the reception with his barbershop quartet, the Easy Aces, which also includes Lynn Bridie, Ron Morden and Mike Rehberg.

"I'm still in the 'pinch-me' stage," Saunders said at the reception.

"We all were. A wedding well-done, new life well-begun."

Bertha Tigges Jones, 89, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave. died of a heart ailment there Sunday. Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. Private burial will be at Masonic Cemetery.

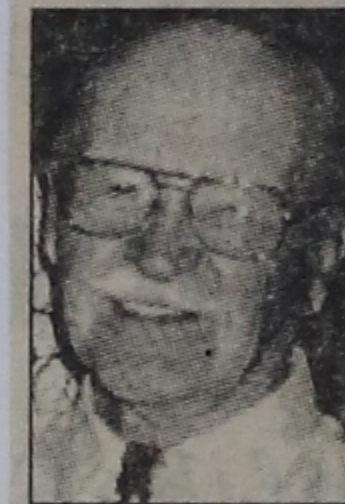


Mrs. Jones was born in Melbourne and lived in Des Moines since 1933. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include two sons, B. Rees of Des Moines and Lester of White Bear Lake, Minn.; a daughter, Kathryn Nickelson of White Bear Lake, Minn.; a sister, Bernice Fox of Lawrence, Kan.; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Acres or her church.

Donald R. Hewitt, 94, of Urbandale Health Care Center, 4614 N.W. 84th St., Urbandale, died there Wednesday of complications following a stroke. Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial of the remains in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mr. Hewitt, who was born in Denver, Colo., moved to the Des Moines area in 1953 from South Dakota. He retired as a service salesman for Dun and Bradstreet. He served in the Army Reserves and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Mercy Heritage, Civil War Round Table, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the National Association of Eagle Scouts.

Surviving are a son, Don J. of Panorama; three daughters, Sandra Knapton of Indianapolis, Carol Ann Lamberti of West Des Moines and Marcia Sue Coughenower of Des Moines; 14 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central Iowa.

BRIEFLY IN RELIGION

Leadership honors to be bestowed on three area women

Three Des Moines-area women will be honored for leadership in human relations and community service at the annual awards dinner of the Iowa Region of the National Conference of Christians and Jews at 7 p.m. May 14 at the Airport Holiday Inn and Conference Center, 6111 Fleur Drive.

Recipients of the Brotherhood/Sisterhood Awards will be Mary Louise Smith, Maude Esther White and Roselind Rabinowitz.

Smith, the first woman to chair the Republican National Committee, has been a national and local leader in civil rights and world peace efforts and an advocate for women's issues.

White has devoted her life to assisting disadvantaged people in education, employment, housing and business. A former Des Moines teacher, she founded and directed the Des Moines Tutoring Center and was director of education for Children and Families of Iowa.

Rabinowitz was the first woman to chair the Jewish Community Relations Commission and the Jewish Federation Campaign and to be president of Tifereth Israel Synagogue. She has served on boards of Children and Families of Iowa, Orchard Place, Planned Parenthood and Iowa Commission on the Status of Women.

To make reservations for the fund raising dinner call (515) 274-5571.



You are Invited

TO A DINNER IN HONOR OF

MARY LOUISE SMITH

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1996

7:00 P.M.

FEATURING

THE HONORABLE GEORGE BUSH

DES MOINES MARRIOTT HOTEL

IOWA BALLROOM

700 GRAND AVENUE

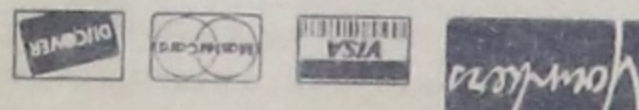
CELEBRATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MARY LOUISE SMITH
CHAIR IN WOMEN AND POLITICS AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

★ ★ ★

Mary Louise Smith has devoted her life to the political process at the local, state and national level. ★ She has served as an advocate for women's issues and as a leader in American politics for nearly 40 years. ★ She is the first and only woman to serve as National Chairman of the Republican Party (1974-1977). ★ A native of Eddyville, Iowa, Smith is a founder of the Iowa Women's Political Caucus and a member of the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame. ★ She is involved in a wide range of civic, community and governmental affairs and research.

SATISFACTION ALWAYS

Yankelovich



'I AM AMONG FRIENDS'

4/17/96



Longtime friends George Bush and Mary Louise Smith chat before the former president's speech Tuesday night in Des Moines. The event raised about \$50,000 for an endowed professorship at Iowa State University in Smith's name. BILL NEIBERGALL/THE REGISTER

Of friends, foreign policy

In Iowa, Bush urges U.S. to mend relations with China

By DAVID YEPSEN
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Former President George Bush warned Tuesday that U.S. relations with China are in trouble and need repair.

Bush was in Des Moines to help raise money for the Mary Louise Smith chair in women and politics at the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at Iowa State University. Smith, from Des Moines, is a former head of the Republican National Committee and a longtime friend of the former president.

ISU is raising money for an endowment to finance the professorship, and Bush was the headline speaker at Tuesday's fund-raising dinner.

During his speech, he said the U.S. relationship with China "is very, very important to the future of the United States of America, and I worry about it and I hope we get it in order."

"There's no way that anyone in

this room, no matter how old you are, can look beyond the year 2000 and not say that this relationship will be the most important foreign policy relationship we've had, and there's certainly room for tons of improvement in working with those people, difficult though they may be sometimes," he said.

Bush's Des Moines visit followed a recent trip to China, and he told his Iowa audience he feels strongly about the need to improve U.S.-Chinese relations. He said he used a meeting Tuesday morning with Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, the likely Republican presidential nominee this fall, to discuss it.

But Bush, who once served as a U.S. envoy to China, said he did not come to Iowa to make serious policy observations, but to praise his friend Smith and to help raise money. About 500 people showed up at the Des Moines Marriott Hotel for Tuesday's event.

Former Gov. Robert Ray said Smith and Bush "have been through the wars together."

KASSEBAUM TO ISU

U.S. Sen. Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas will be the first Mary Louise Smith professor at Iowa State University, school officials said Tuesday night. Kassebaum is retiring from the Senate and will be teaching part-time at ISU during the 1996-97 year.

Smith, 81, is an Eddyville native who followed Bush as head of the Republican National Committee. They became close friends in those positions, and she was one of Bush's earliest supporters when he first ran for president in 1979-80. In that role, she helped him stage an upset victory over Ronald Reagan in the 1980 Iowa caucuses.

While Bush did not win the White House that year, his strong Iowa showing helped propel him into the vice presidency.

On Tuesday, Bush said: "I feel I

am among friends, and I know that I would not have been president of the United States of America if it had not been for many people in this room, a lot of people."

He added: "We don't do politics anymore, except as it relates to my sons. I don't do issues. I don't do press — I love that part. I do friends, and I'm thrilled to be standing next to an esteemed friend for whom I have great respect."

"It is a joy to join her many friends in Iowa in saluting her," Bush said.

Smith said: "George and I suffered together through the trauma of Watergate, waiting always for the other shoe to drop, and finally the last one did."

Smith said the professorship in her name is a project "dear to my heart" because "the promotion of women in politics is a theme that has threaded itself through my entire career."

ISU officials said the dinner raised about \$50,000 for the endowment.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alicia Claypool of Des Moines has been selected as the first executive director of the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa, which describes itself as a moderate, mainstream religious coalition. "With the election of Alicia as executive director, (the alliance) will better empower its members to actively express their faith through the political process," said the Rev. Sam Massey, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church and chairman of the organization's board. "The quest to educate and mobilize Iowans to the effects of radical religious and political views has just received a shot in the arm," Massey said. The Iowa group, part of a national coalition, was formed in early 1966. Claypool is a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and was instrumental in forming the Iowa organization.

Willah J. Cederstrom, 93, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of heart and respiratory ailments



Thursday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. Burial will be in Resthaven

Cemetery.

Mrs. Cederstrom was born in Leon and had lived in Des Moines since 1948. She was a retired teacher for the West Des Moines schools and a member of PEO.

Survivors include a sister, Dorothy Darling of Iowa City; and a brother, Lowell Goodman of Des Moines.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

4/26/96

Marjorie Bates Bonnewitz, 91, of Norwalk died of complications of Alzheimer's disease Wednesday at



Regency Care Center. Services are at 10 a.m. Saturday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at 1 p.m. at Memorial Lawn Cemetery in Ottumwa.

Mrs. Bonnewitz was born in Ottumwa and lived in the Des Moines area most of her life. She was a retired private secretary and a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Survivors include two stepdaughters, Marilyn Ramsey of Des Moines and Judi Henard of Sterling, Ill.; eight step-grandchildren; and 12 step-great-grandchildren.

Friends may call after 5 p.m. today at the funeral home, where the family will be present from 7 to 9 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to her church.

Eva H. Plagman, 93, of Urbandale Health Care Center, 4614 N.W. 84th St., Urbandale, died of a heart ailment Saturday at



Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery.

Mrs. Plagman, a homemaker, lived in the Des Moines area all her life. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and Garden Club of America.

There are no immediate survivors. Friends may call from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to her church.

5/96

Helena B. Watson, 80, of 715 41st St. died of a heart attack Sunday at home. The body was cremated and memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Westover Funeral Home.

Mrs. Watson was born in Osage and lived in Des Moines most of her life, returning from Chicago. She retired as a secretary in the political science department at Drake University and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Her husband, W. Ward, survives.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra. Westover Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Robert Lee Erickson, 84, of Luther Park Health Care Center, 1555 Hull Ave., died of cancer there



Monday. Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at McLaren's Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery.

Mr. Erickson was born in Newton and lived in Des Moines most of his life. He retired as president of C.E. Erickson Co. Inc. and owner of Percival Refrigeration in Boone. He was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite Bodies and Za-Ga-Zig Shrine.

Surviving are his wife, Adelaide; two sons, Bob of Des Moines and Dennis of Van Meter; a daughter, Karen Ault of St. Paul, Minn.; a sister, Madeline Erickson of Pequot, Minn.; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family will visit with friends at the funeral home one hour before services. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association.

Weird weather, huh? High winds and a mini-blizzard caused power outages Sunday morning, and the huge Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines lost its electricity just after the 9 a.m. service. It wasn't restored until the 11 a.m. service was nearly over. But that service went on as scheduled in the darkened church. Assistant organist John Lytle shifted to the grand piano. The pastors talked as loudly as they could.

"First the electricity went out and then the snow came," said the Rev. Paul Johnson from the pulpit, as he welcomed the congregation. "We expect the locusts at any time."

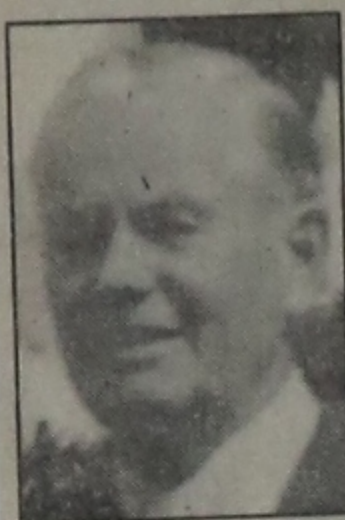
■ **Alicia Claypool**, chairwoman of the Iowa Interfaith Alliance, will be the speaker at the Adult Social Issues Forum at 9:30 a.m. Sunday at Grace Lutheran Church, 52nd Street and Urbandale Avenue. 4/13/96

■ **Plymouth Congregational Church** received the annual "Friend of Youth" award from the Youth Homes of Mid-America at the agency's annual meeting Thursday at Glen Oaks Country Club. The church was selected in appreciation for its yearly "Project Memories" program, which provided Christmas gifts for all of the clients and their families served by the Youth Homes in its off-campus programs. Youth Homes of Mid-America was formerly known as the YMCA Boys Home. 7/19/97

First Unitarian Church and the Plymouth Congregational Church will offer a workshop, "Affirming the Ones You Love," from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Plymouth, 42nd Street and Ingersoll Avenue. The conference is intended for the parents, spouses, family and friends of people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered (they are also welcome.) The purpose is to answer questions to help gain confidence and comfort in dealing with loved ones. Free. Call 255-3149. — *Erin Kinsella*

Why not donate those old toys rather than try make a buck off them? The Family Life Committee of Plymouth Congregational Church is looking for spring and summer playthings, such as baseball and soccer equipment, bikes, trikes and wagons, wading pools and the like to be distributed to needy kids. Please bring items to the church at 4126 Ingersoll Ave. by Sunday.

Howard Webster Lyon, 89, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of cancer there Sunday.

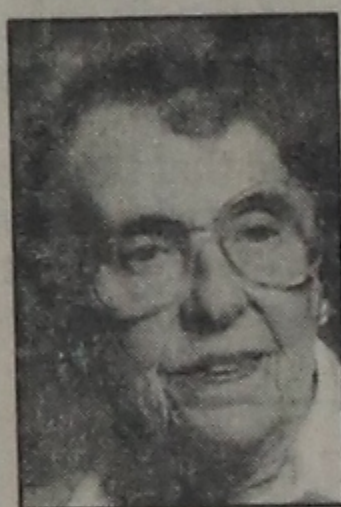


The body has been cremated and no services are planned.

Mr. Lyon, born in Valley Junction, lived in Des Moines for 36 years and then resided in many other states before returning. He was the retired owner of Howard Lyon Inc., a retail clothing store. Prior to that, he worked for Younkers for 21 years. He was a World War II Navy veteran and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, Rotary Club and the chambers of commerce in Des Moines, West Allis, Wis., and Milwaukee.

There are no immediate survivors. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Jeannetta "Jane" York, 98, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of a heart ailment there Wednesday.



Services will be at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Sundberg-Kirkpatrick Funeral Home in Madrid, with burial in Mount Hope Cemetery there.

Mrs. York was born in Clayton and lived in Madrid and Kansas City, Mo., before moving to Des Moines 26 years ago. She was a teacher in Exira, Earlham and Madrid before retirement. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, the Des Moines Chapter L.A. of P.E.O. and the Des Moines Women's Club.

She is survived by a daughter, Yvonne Todtleben of Springfield, Minn.; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 12:30 until the time of service Saturday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be given to the Wesley Acres Good Samaritan Fund.

Hoak dies; once noted ISU athlete

By **CHRISTINE GROSZ**

REGISTER STAFF WRITER



Iowa State University track and cross-country champion Harry L. Hoak died Monday at Mercy Hospital Medical Center of complications from a stroke. He was 89.

Mr. Hoak graduated from ISU in 1929 with a degree in civil engineering. While a student, he won both the indoor half-mile and outdoor mile races in the Big Six conference, as well as the mile in the Big Eight conference. He was a member of two world record-setting relay teams in 1928.

Mr. Hoak's athletic accomplishments are marked by ISU's cross-country course, Hoak Crossing.

After college, Mr. Hoak owned and managed several contracting businesses, which built electrical transmission lines. Through his businesses, he traveled to Alaska during the construction of the Alcan Highway in the 1940s and an electrical transmission line near Juneau in the 1970s.

Mr. Hoak had owned and managed Hoak Construction Co., H.L. Hoak Co., Hi-Line Maintenance Corp. and Utilities Construction Co.

Mr. Hoak remained close to ISU, however, and was frequently recognized by the university. He was named Cy's Favorite Alum in 1958 and received the Alumni Recognition Medal in 1975. Mr. Hoak served on the board of governors for the ISU Foundation and was a Founders Club member of the Order of the Knoll.

Mr. Hoak, a lifelong Des Moines-area resident who lived at 915 Ashworth Road in West Des Moines, was a member of the Des Moines Club, Des Moines Golf and Country Club and Plymouth Congregational Church.

He is survived by a son, Robert Hoak of Boca Raton, Fla., and one grandchild.

Services will be private, with burial of the cremains in Resthaven Cemetery. Hamilton's Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to the Iowa State University Foundation.

Ankeny Methodists enter high-tech world with e-mail bulletin boards

4/13/96
By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

In the beginning was the Word.
Much later came the Internet.
And now, ChurchNet.

Not so many years ago, a big debate ensued at Ankeny First United Methodist Church. The issue was whether the church should ditch its electronic typewriters and mimeograph machine — used for communications and record-keeping — and move into the computer age.

Computers won.

Now, the church has ventured onto the information superhighway.

In a pilot program, members with a personal computer and a modem can dial up an e-mail/bulletin board system to get information from their church. They can get the regular communications that come as mail — newsletters, bulletins, minutes of meetings, agendas and such. But that just scratches the surface.

Membership Lists

They also can call up such things as an up-to-date membership directory, daily devotions, news releases from the national United Methodist News Service, the lectionary readings, health information, and more.

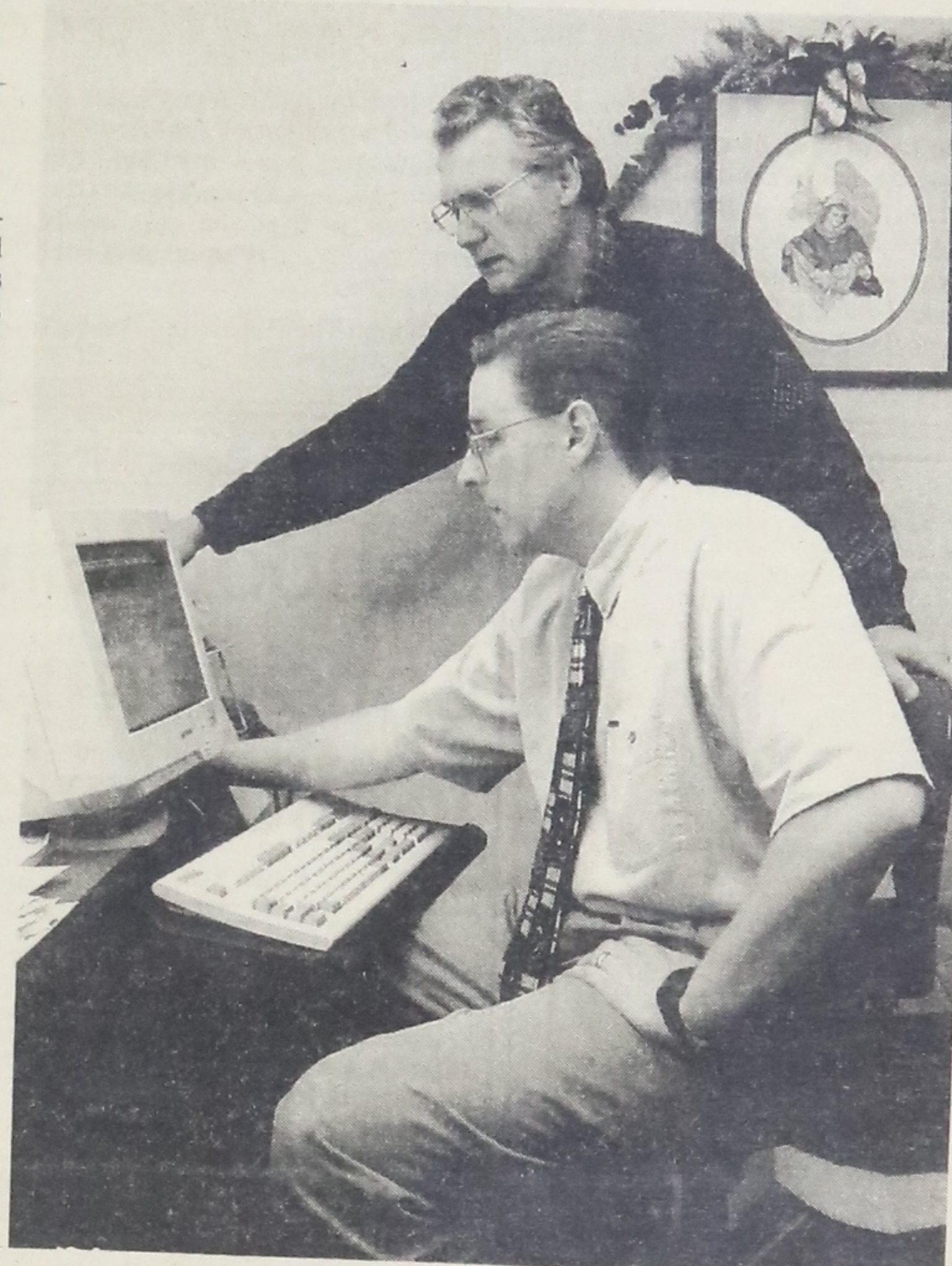
The interactive possibilities of ChurchNet may be the most intriguing.

"(Members) can send and receive confidential e-mail to their ministers, church staff, and each other," said Mark Haverland, a former 12-year Iowa House member, an ordained minister and longtime computer buff.

After his legislative career, Haverland founded the computer-based Consumer Health Information Inc., which provides electronic information to employers, health maintenance organizations and associations.

Haverland recently started a spin-off operation, Central Iowa Network Services, to develop the ChurchNet concept.

"It's a great idea," says the Rev. Stephen Peters, associate pastor at the church. Like Haverland, Peters has long been "wired" for the computer age. Peters is the key church



BOB MODERSOHN/THE REGISTER
The Rev. Stephen Peters, seated, and Mark Haverland inspect the e-mail/bulletin board information available to members of Ankeny First United Methodist Church through ChurchNet.

staff person in the pilot program.

Haverland said there are many churches that have home pages on the Internet, "but it is too public" for the ChurchNet concept.

Someone sending a confidential e-mail message to the pastor would scarcely want it appearing on the Internet, for all to see.

Likewise, churches like for members to have a current membership list but don't consider it appropriate to be available to everyone in the world who has a modem.

To get access, church members apply, are approved and receive a password that gets them into the system. All information stays within the system, and confidential messages are seen only by the recipient, Haverland said.

A six-month pilot program at the church began April 1. Haverland said about 60 households have signed up so far.

Haverland said there is no fee to use the service during the six-month pilot period. He said users will pay a

small fee, "probably \$1 or \$2 per month," after the pilot.

He said he sees the project as a ministry and doesn't expect to make much money on it. The church pays no fee.

Haverland said a bonus in ChurchNet is that it provides easy and economical access to the Internet.

“With the technology of computers and the Internet, we can go to all the world and make disciples.”

— The Rev. Stephen Peters
Ankeny First United Methodist

chNet is that it provides easy and economical access to the Internet.

Peters said one of the ideas floating around is to have an intra-church chat line. A topic would be put on line — maybe a theological issue or a program or issue in the church. Members could express their views in a congregational discussion from their homes.

Might the pastor's sermon be subjected to Sunday afternoon quarterback criticism? "It could happen," he said, chuckling.

Pastors Interested

"I've had preliminary discussions with several other pastors, all of whom expressed interest in participating in such a system," Haverland said.

"They think that increasingly churches will want to communicate with their congregation electronically if they can do so in a manner which is secure, inexpensive and convenient," he said.

Haverland expressed the hope that, "Eventually the churches in the area could share a common electronic link to facilitate communication among churchgoers."

Peters suggested that the tools of the Information Age can be used in fulfilling the "Great Commission" by Jesus in Matthew chapter 28:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..."

"With the technology of computers and the Internet, we can go to all the world and make disciples," Peters said.

3/9/96

Pioneering female physician Charlotte Fisk dies

She was instrumental in developing a neonatal intensive care unit at Blank Children's Hospital.

By JIM POLLOCK
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Dr. Charlotte Fisk once told an interviewer how her medical career came to be: "I decided I was going to live a long time and I might as well be doing something useful."

She did live a long time. She died of a respiratory ailment last week at the age of 93.

She did a few useful things, too.

Like working 18- and 20-hour days in the hospitals of Des Moines as a pediatric doctor during World War II, when doctors were

scarce.

Like serving as a role model and mentor to Dr. Mary Louise Lyons, and no doubt quite a few other young women who wanted to be physicians.



Fisk

A "diamond"

Like spurring the development of a neonatal intensive care unit at Blank Children's Hospital, well after she retired.

"If you had a Mount Rushmore of pediatricians in Des Moines, she would be on it," said Dr. Jack Spevak, who will serve as a

At the start of her career, Dr. Fisk was one of only a few women who were practicing doctors in Des Moines, but she never made much of a point of it, according to her friends.

"She just barely mentioned it once," said Sister Zita Brennan. "She said that the barrier was being broken down. She was happy about that."

Dr. Fisk didn't start out to be a doctor at all. She had graduated from the University of Iowa and was working as a secretary at the University of Wisconsin in Madison when she paused to reconsider.

Dr. Fisk wrote a letter to her father, asking what he thought about her going back to school to study medicine. "Then I kept the let-

FISK Please turn to Page 6M

Pioneering physician Charlotte Fisk dies

FISK

Continued from Page 1M

ter in my desk six weeks before I got the nerve to mail it," she said in a 1956 newspaper story.

She sent it, her father approved, and Dr. Fisk eventually became part of the Des Moines medical scene in 1941. She continued to practice until 1973.

Her 55 years here produced all sorts of memories for patients, colleagues and friends.

Lyons, a friend for 48 years, remembers a "super smart" woman with a "horrible" taste for bad mystery novels.

She also remembers the time Dr. Fisk went to Iowa Methodist Medical Center for cataract surgery and a nurse wished her good luck on the way to the operating room. "She raised herself up on one elbow," Lyons recalled, "and said, 'This place had better have something better to

offer than luck.'"

Denise Moore will remember the way Dr. Fisk guided her through the first few years of a rare disease that stunted her growth and made her bones brittle.

"I've always loved her," Moore said Monday. "She would give me a hard time when I broke a bone; she would ask, 'Have you been playing football again?'"

"I think she honestly believed in me as a person, not just as a patient."

Dr. William Bartlett remembers the grand opening of Dr. Fisk's pet project, the neonatal ICU at Blank. It happened to be on a Super Bowl Sunday. Dr. Fisk, who never saw a sport she didn't like to watch, lugged a TV to the ceremony and kept asking, "Why are we doing this today?"

Two of her traveling companions, Carol Stewart and Carol Van Horn, will remember the last time they took Dr. Fisk on a fishing trip. It was just last summer, and she was de-

lighted to catch a batch of tiny bluegills.

Then they harnessed their big dog to Dr. Fisk's wheelchair and treated her to "chariot racing" all over the campgrounds.

Neal Leas, who helped her train a few dogs of her own over the years, will remember the last time she attended a puppy graduation at his place. It was a year ago, and Leas marked the occasion by presenting a trophy to a woman he calls "a diamond all the way through."

The handwritten inscription to Dr. Fisk — who stood all of 5 feet tall — went something like this: "To the world's most dedicated dog trainer — a giant among giants."

Two nieces survive Dr. Fisk. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Amanda the Panda, Blank Children's Hospital Guild or Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Charlotte Fisk, 93, of 3100 Grand Ave. died of a respiratory ailment Thursday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Memorial services are at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member, with burial of the cremains at Oakland Ceme-



tery in Iowa City.

Dr. Fisk was born in Malone, N.Y., and lived in Des Moines most of her life. She retired as a pediatrician in private practice and had been a pediatric consultant for the Iowa Department of Health and medical director of Des Moines Health Center and the neonatal intensive care unit at Blank Children's Hospital. She was a member of several medical organizations and the Child Guidance Center, Des Moines Speech and Hearing Center and Iowa Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

Two nieces survive.

The family will visit with friends from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Amanda the Panda, Blank Children's Hospital Guild or her church.

BRIEFLY IN RELIGION

Luther College choir to appear

The Luther College Nordic Choir will perform at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 1 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

The concert is the highlight of the 10th anniversary celebration of the Plymouth Fine Arts Series and marks the choir's final U.S. performance before embarking on a trip to Russia to perform with the Moscow Chamber Orchestra.

Plymouth Fine Arts Series — The Luther College Nordic Choir performs, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Plymouth Congregational Church, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Doors open, 6:45 p.m. Tickets: \$8 and \$3; available at door or at the church. Call 255-3149. 2-1-96

OBITUARIES

Trudy Baudler-Anderson, 68, of 421 N.E. Seventh St., Ankeny, died of cancer Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body was cremated and a memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member.



Mrs. Baudler-Anderson was born in Schonballen, East Prussia, and lived in Ankeny 10 years. She was a certified nursery worker and retired from Heard Gardens. She had been a member of the Des Moines Herb Study Group, State of Iowa Arboretum, Iowa State Horticulture Society and the board of directors of the Des Moines Botanical Center.

Surviving are her husband, Duane Anderson; three sons, Marc Baudler of Overland Park, Kan., Robert Baudler of Des Moines and Scott Reiter of Ankeny; three daughters, Kitty Brenner of Freeport, Ill., Susan Langford of Ankeny and Debi Reiter of Haverhill, Mass.; a brother, Luther Schmidt of Dusseldorf, Germany; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the State of Iowa Arboretum in Madrid. McLaren's Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Rachel L. Bodin, 71, of 4220 Lincoln Ave. died of cancer Monday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Bodin lived in Des Moines all her life and retired from the provost's office at Drake University. She was past president of Blank Children's Hospital Guild and PEO.

Among survivors are two sons, Dexter of West Des Moines and Greg of Altoona; a daughter, Julie Ginther of Des Moines; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family will visit with friends from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Blank Children's Hospital Guild.

Irma Brackett, 101, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of pneumonia there Saturday. Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Cutler Funeral Home in Council Bluffs, with burial at Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mrs. Brackett, a homemaker, was born in Marysville, Pa., and lived in Des Moines many years. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and PEO.

She is survived by a daughter, Barbara Dole of Brandon, Miss.; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family will greet friends from 7 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Shriners Crippled Children Hospitals or the Iowa Heart Association.

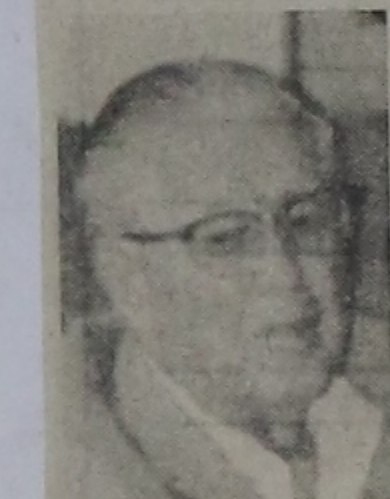
1-1-96

Mary Marquis Bechtold, 91, of Urbandale Health Care Center, 4614 N.W. 84th St., died of complications of a stroke there Sunday. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Woodland Cemetery. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Mrs. Bechtold was born in Des Moines and lived here most of her life. She was a retired librarian and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church and P.E.O.

Surviving are two stepdaughters, Helen Cotney of Huntsville, Ala., and Elaine Waggener of Falls Church, Va.; 11 step-grandchildren; 18 step-great-grandchildren; and a step-great-great-grandchild.

Friends may call from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to her church's foundation.



Glen Graham Wallace, 90, of 2909 Woodland Ave. died of pneumonia Tuesday at Scottish Rite Park, where he had lived for eight years. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at Masonic Cemetery.

Mr. Wallace was a lifelong Des Moines resident and a self-employed real estate manager. He was an Army veteran of World War II and member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Pioneer Club, Des Moines Club, Greater Des Moines Board of Realtors, Pioneer Masonic Lodge, Des Moines Consistory and Za-Ga-Zig Shrine.

Survivors include his wife, Becky; and a sister, Margaret Barner of Sarasota, Fla.

Friends may call after 2 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Good Brotherhood of Scottish Rite Park or his church.

1-3-96

Mary Dillon, 88, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of a kidney ailment there Monday. Services are at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at Resthaven Cemetery.



Mrs. Dillon, a homemaker, lived in Des Moines most of her life.

She is survived by three brothers, Robert Hayne, Willard Hayne and Addison Hayne, all of Des Moines.

Friends may call after 3 p.m. today at the funeral home, where the family will meet friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

1/23/96

Kristin Marie Leimer, 34, of 833 18th St. died of brain cancer Saturday at Hospice Kavanagh House. Memorial services will be at 3 p.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, with burial of the cremains at Union Cemetery in Pomeroy at a later date.



Mrs. Leimer was born in Long Beach, Calif., and moved to Des Moines in 1986 from Corpus Christi, Texas. She was director of quality improvement for Central Iowa Health Systems and had been a member of the University of Iowa Alumni Association.

Among survivors are her husband, Tim; her father, Allan Rohlf of Rockwell City; and two sisters, Linda Rohlf of Bellflower, Calif., and Sandra Younger of Shawnee, Kan.

Memorial contributions may be made to Iowa Methodist Health Foundation or Hospice Kavanagh House. Arrangements were handled by Caldwell-Raddatz Funeral Home.

1-8-96

Joan H. Milligan, 69, of 2544 Pine Circle, Urbandale, died of a respiratory ailment Saturday at home. The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines, of which she was a member. Burial of the cremains will be private.



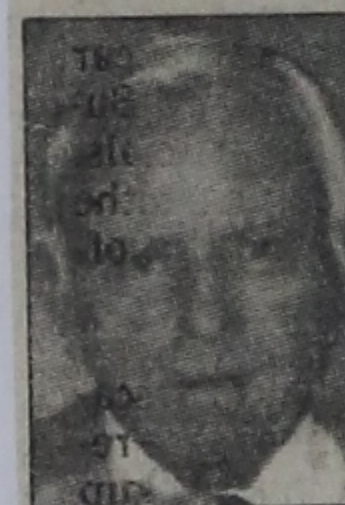
Mrs. Milligan was born in Walker and lived in the Des Moines area since 1940. A homemaker, she was a member of P.E.O. and Plymouth Congregational Church in McGregor.

Survivors include a daughter, Sherry Milligan of Denver, Colo.; a son, D. Steve of Andover, Md.; a brother, John Hawkinson of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Woodland Cemetery Restoration or Greenwood Park Double Site Project. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

1-3-96

Guy G. Brunk, 85, of 2101 Beaver Ave. died Sunday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center of complications of pneumonia. Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Westover Funeral Home, and burial will be in Glendale Cemetery.



Mr. Brunk lived in Des Moines all his life and retired as a self-employed property manager. He served in the Navy Seabees during World War II and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and was past president of Toastmasters.

Surviving are his wife, Sidney May; a daughter, Betty Bleeker of Indianapolis; a son, Guy E. of Des Moines; 16 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

The family will visit with friends from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to American Diabetes Association.

"I don't want to pastor the largest church in the world or to be a millionaire."

The Rev. John Palmer of First Assembly of God Church in Des Moines

Minister with a mis

John Palmer is known for building bridges, opening lines of communication, and bringing a bit of surprise to his ministry.

By JOHN CARLSON

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

The Rev. John Palmer was on his knees, praying with those who had come to the altar for spiritual help, when a friend handed him a note. The vice president of the United States was in town and wanted to see him. Right away.

"Tell him I can't," Palmer said. "I'm praying."

The vice president will wait, came the response. So they met later at the vice president's hotel suite that Sunday night — George and Barbara Bush and John and Debbie Palmer. Bush said he heard Palmer had publicly denied he was part of Pat Robertson's campaign, so the vice president asked for an endorsement of his own presidential candidacy.

Palmer said no. His pulpit wasn't for sale, not to Pat Robertson or George Bush or anybody else. Neither was Des Moines' First Assembly of God Church.

But Palmer couldn't pass up the opportunity.

"Would you like to join me in prayer, Mr. Vice President?" he asked Bush. So the four held hands, stood in a circle in the center of the hotel room and prayed.

His Passion

"It's my passion in life," said Palmer, thinking back on the strange scene. "I live to bring the word of God to as many people as I can possibly reach."

It goes for the vice president. It goes for the guy behind the counter at the fast food restaurant or whoever happens to stop by Palmer's office for a chat.

He is the senior pastor at the largest church in the state, where upwards of 3,000 central Iowans come each Sunday morning to hear the Palmer message.

Most in Des Moines know him through his television commercials, the bespectacled soft-spoken minister tossing the football around in the yard, working out on the stair-climbing machine, telling people the way to escape the despair in their lives. Some know him as the great conciliator among the Pentecostal preachers in town, the man who works to bring blacks and whites together and who, when a synagogue was defaced, asked for forgiveness on behalf of evangelicals who had been "unkind and intolerant" over the years.

It's not that he believed any evangelical Christians were involved in the vandalism. He just thought it was an appropriate time to recognize and denounce hate.

Another Surprise

And maybe the biggest surprise of all, Palmer is trying to find common ground with Jonathan Wilson, the homosexual school board member who was at the center of the great public school curriculum fight. It was the most divisive liberal-conservative battle in Des Moines in years.

He's a man who refuses to speak unkindly of any person, yet he is absolutely convinced the vast majority of the world's 5 billion people haven't a chance to reach heaven unless they change their ways.



With eyes closed in prayer, the Rev. John Palmer leads ever Saturday afternoon service at First Assembly of God Church on Merle Hay Road in Des Moines. The people in the background are members of the choir.

44 I live to bring the word of God to as many people as I can possibly reach. 77

— The Rev. John Palmer

Changing their ways means becoming an all-out, no questions asked, born-again Christian. Those without a prayer of reaching the promised land in his view: Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, main-line Protestants who don't fully believe, atheists, drunks, homosexuals and anybody else in this world who isn't wholly committed to Jesus Christ as the one and only way.

"I Believe I'm Right"

"I believe with all my heart I'm right," said Palmer. "But I hope I'm wrong." In Decem-

ber, Palmer went to Cambodia to dedicate a Bible school First Assembly had financed and then visited Thailand. Seventy million people live in Thailand, he wrote in his weekly newsletter, and only the 40,000 Christians there will make it to heaven. The Buddhists haven't got a chance, he said.

"They're lost," Palmer wrote. "I watched with sadness as they knelt on the ground, holding their incense sticks, and earnestly praying for protection and help. They have no hope!"

Palmer insists he's not being judgmental. Of course he's being judgmental, said David Ruhe, pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church and a Palmer friend.

"If you say someone is damned to eternity in hell, there's a judgment involved," said

PALMER

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Ruhe, who calls himself one of the liberals among Des Moines clergy. "It simply doesn't square with my concept of God. I think John believes it — really, deeply believes it — because he came through his church's pipeline and can believe nothing else."

Son of Preacher

Palmer started down the "pipeline" as a child in Pennsylvania, the son of an Assemblies of God preacher who didn't allow a television in the house or permit his children to see a movie — to this day, the 43-year-old Palmer has never been in a theater.

His brother is a preacher and his sister married one. His wife, Debbie, has two brothers who are preachers. His three children are into competitive Bible verse memorization.

There really was never any doubt Palmer would become a preacher. As a child he'd work with his father, sitting at the kitchen table hours at a time reading the Bible and committing much of it to memory. When he graduated from the Assemblies of God's Central Bible College in Springfield, Mo., he asked for permission to go to Athens, Ohio, to start his own church. Within a few months he had organized a prayer group and was preaching in a rented shed. After the bills were paid he was left with \$65 a week for himself.

It was a marvelous wage, Palmer says. "I was preaching the word of God."

To D.M. in 1985

The little church became the largest in Athens, and in 1985 Palmer came to Des Moines to head up First Assembly. When he came to town, the church on Merle Hay Road was in turmoil. Its preacher had confessed he was having an affair and had left in disgrace.

Now, 11 years later, First Assembly is arguably the most successful church in Iowa. As mainline churches across the state and nation lose members and struggle to pay their bills, First Assembly is growing — just last week a Saturday night service was added when Palmer said he realized he might attract a new crowd of people who work Sundays.

The 3,000 people who come each week dropped some \$2 million in the

purple collection bags last year.

"It's not unusual for somebody to drop a \$10,000 check in the offering," Palmer said.

That \$2 million does not include the money raised by the church for the missions projects First Assembly supports around the world. When Palmer came to Des Moines, First Assembly of God was raising about \$250,000 a year from its members to support missionaries in Africa, South America, Asia — you name it.

Cambodian Project

When the annual missions giving peaked at about \$450,000 a couple of years ago, Palmer thought it was time the people in his church did more. In 1994, he and the church elders decided First Assembly would start its own mission — a Bible school — in Cambodia, where much of the clergy had been wiped out.

"I told the congregation I wanted them to donate \$125,000 on a single Sunday to build that Bible school," Palmer said. "We raised \$135,000 that day."

Last year they did it again. Palmer wanted the congregation to come up with \$150,000 on a single Sunday to build a facility in Ethiopia. The congregation raised the money.

"This congregation contributed about \$650,000 last year for missions work," Palmer said. "That's over and above what they tithe. It's a commitment to faith."

Palmer thinks it's good when people in his church dig far into their pockets for such projects. Prosperity is a wonderful thing, he says. But he looks at some other churches, ones that teach prosperity is godliness, and he believes it to be sinful.

"The greed and the lust of money and the pursuit of things is immoral," he says. "It flows out of the philosophy that we're all gods for ourselves. It's humanism as a religion, the human being as a god. That's why we teach giving a minimum of 10 percent of one's income to the church. It helps curb this insatiable desire to get more."

Palmer said he contributes out of his own pocket as well — although he refuses to disclose his salary.

Their Duty

Parishioners say they give to such a degree because it is their duty.

"He teaches that people are to

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Clergyman

PALMER

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tithe — offer up the first 10 percent to the Lord and people do that," said Dr. James Lovell, a Des Moines cardiologist who has attended First Assembly with his family the last three years.

Lovell spoke at length with Palmer before switching churches and he said Palmer is a chief reason his family moved to First Assembly.

"He runs a big church but he's absolutely committed to individuals," said Lovell. "He's one of the most genuine guys I've ever met in my life."

Palmer says he's sure the dozen television commercials he's starred in have brought more people — and money — into the church but he's not sure how much. The commercials, he says, are produced as a way to reach people who are looking for direction.

Thank-You Calls

"We get a list of first-timers each week and I call people and thank them for coming to church the previous Sunday. It's common for them to tell me they came because they saw the television commercials. I don't have a passion to be popular. I don't have a passion to be well-known. I don't want to pastor the largest church in the world or to be a millionaire."

He simply wants to preach and make what he says be relevant to today's world.

Palmer says it's not a sin to go to the movies, for instance. Or to have a beer. Nothing in the Bible prohibits such a thing. But he can pick up the book that is within his grasp virtually wherever he goes and cite a verse of Scripture that deals with the subject.

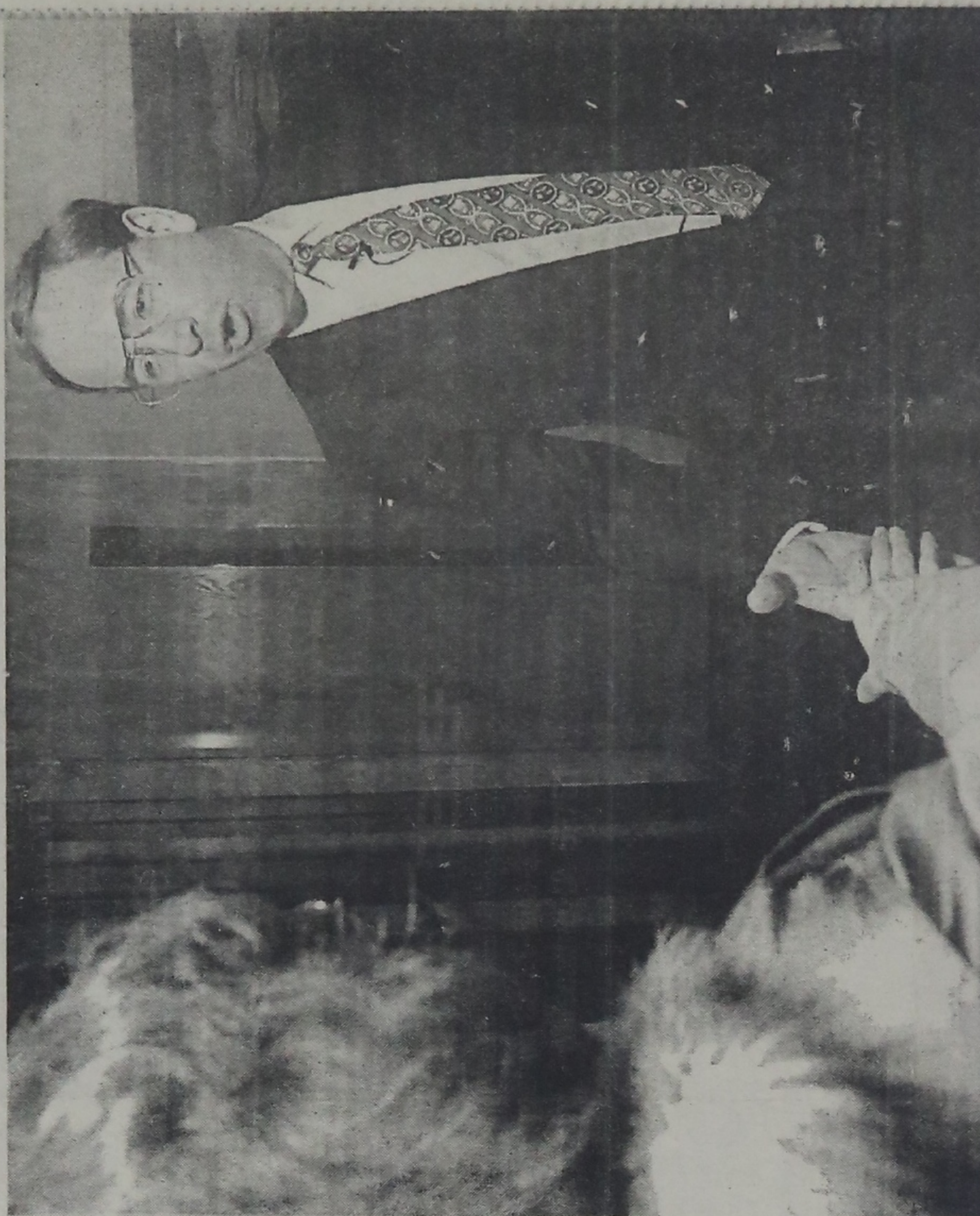
"I can't go to the Bible and say here's why you can't go to the cinema. But I can say, based on Philippians, Chapter 4, Verse 8, whatever you watch should be true and noble and right and pure and lovely and admirable and excellent and praiseworthy. When you decide what movies you're going to attend, or television shows you're going to watch or what books you're going to read, make sure you're not taking into your system things that will pollute your mind and your heart."

"We're living in a world that is filled with impurity. I don't go to the garbage dump to eat every day. So I don't have to take that kind of garbage into my spiritual system either." It's a ridiculous notion to many in society today and embarrassing to the so-called mainline or liberal churches.

"Naivete"

"It's innocence, not ignorance or intolerance," said Ruhe. "I sit down to lunch with John in a restaurant and he assumes we'll say grace before we eat. That's not commonly my practice but I do it because I'd

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BILL NEIBERGALL/THE REGISTER
John Palmer greets people at the door, welcoming newcomers to the church say they have seen them to the Saturday afternoon service at First Assembly of God Church in Des Moines. Many says, "I don't have a passion to be popular."

builds bridges

2-11-96
breakfast. In years past he had thrown the invitation away. That year he decided to go.

never refuse such a request. It's an example of his naivete that he assumes I would naturally do that. But it's not manipulative. We don't agree on many things, homosexuality and abortion, for instance, but I never have had the feeling he was trying to 'fix' me. John is who he is and he's very honest about it."

So Palmer keeps talking and preaching and the church keeps growing.

Palmer says he's been invited to meet with every presidential candidate this year, each one trying to get his endorsement before the caucuses. He's a Republican, but he said no to Bush in 1988 and he tells the current group the same thing.

"The political candidates want me to endorse them so they can put out a letter to 10,000 people and say John Palmer is for me — in their mind that will carry a lot of weight. I can't allow that to happen. Half the people in Polk County are Democrats. Yes, I'm a Republican and I'll go to my caucus. But that's as far as it goes. If I become a puppet of the Republican Party or of any candidate, I've lost the opportunity to minister to 50 percent of the community."

Palmer said he would rather spend his time dealing with real problems in the city. He does it with a zeal that Ruhe says has healed many of the city's wounds.

"He makes assumptions about people based on his life experience — and some of these things are considered very backward — but then he reaches out to people that evangelicals don't normally reach out to," said Ruhe. "I think that's extraordinary."

Five years ago, when racial tensions in Des Moines were escalating, Palmer decided to go to the annual Martin Luther King Day clergy

relationship with the African-American churches and they responded.

"Six or seven years ago there wasn't much dialogue," said The Rev. Keith Ratliff, pastor at Maple Street Baptist Church and head of the Des Moines chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Black Ministerial Alliance.

"I've got to say Pastor Palmer had a lot to do with changing that. He's one of the true leaders in bringing the people together, getting them to sit down and discuss issues. We don't always agree, but now there's talk and common ground. We don't just meet out of necessity when a crisis occurs. We sit down and have a cup of coffee as friends and Pastor Palmer was instrumental in seeing that that happened."

When time came a year ago for conservative churches to rally against the proposed homosexual curriculum in the Des Moines schools, Palmer worked closely with the African-American pastors.

Since the death of the issue, Palmer has made another new friend. He and ousted school board member Jonathan Wilson have talked and developed a mutual respect.

Palmer said he thought back to the volatile school board meeting that was marked by anger and hostility and he decided to be part of the healing process.

wrong. But I'm not going to demean him or put him down in any way. I'm an activist, yes, but I want to solve things in a civil way."

Wilson says he was wary when the two first met.

"I had my guard up," the Des Moines attorney and former school board member said. The fact is, Wilson had hoped Palmer would endorse his re-election to the board, a long shot since Wilson publicly an-

"It was terrible what was happening in our city," Palmer said. "It was an embarrassment to watch the evangelicals get up and scream at people that night downtown. Some of them were members of my church and I told them what I thought. It's an embarrassment when Christians get up and behave like that. That's not the way to solve disagreements."

"I have an opinion about Jonathan Wilson's lifestyle — I think it's

nounced his homosexuality earlier in the year.

"He couldn't endorse me and that's all right," said Wilson. "But I had heard that Pastor Palmer was a person who wanted to build bridges in the community. We had a dialogue and I learned that his interest in building bridges is genuine. He is tolerant of others and he understands the biblical admonition not to judge others."

10/19/95 'I'm still one of the best fire builders around.'

A big birthday for Troop 50

The longest continuously chartered Boy Scout troop in central Iowa is turning 75, and stories of days gone by abound.

This time, a caterer will cook breakfast. She's making Camp Casserole, a layered dish of biscuits, hash browns, eggs and cheese. "And I asked her if she would burn it," Ely Brewer said.

CITY SIDE



Mary Ann LICKTEIG

in central Iowa.

Plymouth Congregational has sponsored the troop since 1930, and the membership list has included many prominent names. Among them: Brenton, Jewett, Flagg, Hubbell, Nyemaster, Throckmorton, Urban, Weitz and Yapp.

Many of the boys who climbed Scout ranks in Troop 50 went on to climb corporate ladders. Ex-Tenderfoots are running banks, lumber companies, law firms and cities.

Saturday Celebration

They will meet Saturday to relish the value of being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent. They will light the troop's candelabra (constructed by one or more members of the troop years ago) and watch as 10-year-old Kent Cabbage is inducted into the troop and as 17-year-old Colin Meginis is recognized for earning the rank of Eagle, Scouting's highest level.

There will be speeches, Camp Casserole and stories — stories, no doubt, as entertaining as anything heard around a campfire.

Joseph Rosenfield has one of the best, though he won't be there to tell it. "I am 91 years old, going on 92, and while I still get around I find it impossible for me to attend large gatherings," he wrote to Scoutmaster Steve Davis.

Roosevelt's Visit

Rosenfield belonged to Troop 35, the predecessor of Troop 50, and he remem-



SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Boy Scout Troop 35 — Troop 50's predecessor — met Theodore Roosevelt in 1918, above. Seated in the left foreground is Roger Budlong. The boy with the glasses to the right is Victor Shore. Kneeling behind him are Kirkwood Jewett, Peter Pratt and James Davis. Standing, left to right, are George Deegan, Joseph Rosenfield, Dick Shore, "Shep" McKittrick, Ralph Dalbey, Edwin Swanson, Edwin Harbach, Heinrich Weitz, Leo Jacobs, David Rawson, Leonard McCord, Raymond Dalbey, Germain Howe and Henry Blanchard. At left, Austin Canney, right, and Charles Schuling, members of Troop 50, share stories during Black Powder Days last spring.



bers the spring day in 1918 when the troop met Theodore Roosevelt. "I remember that Mrs. Henry Wallace Sr., who lived down the street from us, called my mother and told her if I could assemble our troop in one hour, we could have our picture taken with Teddy Roosevelt," Rosenfield wrote.

"As I was not a very fast mover, I often wonder how I accomplished the job of getting all the troop assembled... within the

hour. It was perhaps my greatest accomplishment."

Rosenfield went on to run Younkers.

Other alums wrote to beg for news about old friends, to recall favorite Scouting memories and to thank Plymouth church and their dedicated Scout leaders. "In my day it was Bob Sherer, George Billmeyer, Joe Reid and Lynn Vorbrich..." wrote Lance Krieg. "There would be no scouting without such individuals... al-

though I'm sure I have never expressed a word of thanks; I do so now."

Camp Mitigwa

Krieg, director of technology planning at American Mutual Life Insurance Co. in Des Moines, said Scout highlights for him included trips to Camp Mitigwa, "alter-

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A big birthday for Troop 50

SCOUTS

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nately baking and freezing as the season dictated."

"Finally," wrote Krieg, "I have enclosed a contribution to buy tent pegs or whatever else needs replenishment. But it seems to me that we had to cut our own tent pegs, and I am absolutely positive that I never would have lost one — I think that was Dennis Neff."

Camp Mitigwa — "maker of men" — is in Woodward. It's the setting for many Scout memories.

"We were up in Mitigwa once," began Des Moines lawyer Jeff Flagg. "We snuck out at night and we let all the boats go from the dock — like 120 of them. And they all floated to, like, the other end of the lake where there wasn't any access. And the next day, people had to swim all the way across the lake and fetch 'em and bring 'em all back."

Flagg, now 44, didn't have to fetch. "That was one thing I got away with," he said. "One of the few things."

Poison Ivy

Tim Urban remembers being up at Camp Mitigwa with his twin brother, Ted. "And I remember having to find relief in the woods and using poison ivy leaves, and I paid a price for that for the next couple weeks," he said.

But that was a long time ago, said Urban, the 51-year-old former Des Moines City Councilman who runs a real estate development company. He's not sure anymore if that's really his story or Ted's.

During World War I, the boys in Troop 35 sold Liberty bonds. Their successors in Troop 50 collected scrap metal during World War II.

Modern-day Scouts have fixed the drainage on bike trails in Greenwood Park and rebuilt the wall behind the stage there. Jim Power's Eagle Scout project sparked recycling interest in Des Moines. Power set out 55-gallon drums at grocery stores to collect milk jugs for recycling, and the response was so overwhelming that the city took over his project.

Half of the 22 scouts who are currently members of Troup 50 are Eagles or are working on Eagle projects. Jerry Jewett, the 70-year-old chairman emeritus of Gilcrest/Jewett Lumber Co., said that men he met as Scouts in Troop 50 are some of his dearest friends today. And he learned that "if I'm going to use a knife, I always use it pushing away from me."

Essential Skills

George Carpenter, retired Iowa Public Television executive director, said that the map reading and winter survival skills he learned in Boy Scouts (he built an igloo and slept in it at Waveland Golf Course) saved his life years later when he was on Marine combat command in North Korea.

REUNION

Former Troop 50 members are invited to the unit's 75th anniversary reunion at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines. The cost is \$10. For reservations, call Ely Brewer at (515) 266-2135.

House Doctor Bob Yapp of Rock Island, Ill., said he honed his wood-working skills in Boy Scouts, but his brother, Charlie, said he learned to stay away from knives. That lesson came at a Scout jamboree in the early 1960s, Charlie Yapp said.

"It was my job to cut firewood. . . . I must have been 10, 11 or 12 or something, and I got the old ax out to chop the wood, and I hit my leg and cut it wide open and bled all over the place and passed out." He woke up to the sight of Scoutmaster Bob Sherer waving something in his face.

Yapp got bandaged up, he said, "And they let me loose."

Then he got out his knife and started whittling something. He wound up whittling his finger right

down to the bone. And he passed out again.

Never Say No

Al Cabbage said he learned to serve his community when he was a Boy Scout, and now his wife jokes that he can never say no to a committee. Cabbage is marketing director at Drake University. "If I do say so myself, I'm still one of the best fire builders around," he said.

He also epitomizes the Scout motto: Be prepared. "I always have my Swiss Army knife with me and you know if it's cold, I wear a stocking cap because I read in my Scout manual that 90 percent of your body heat escapes through your head."

He remembers Scout leaders taking the boys out to the church parking lot and pointing out stars. "That's Orion, and those are the stars in his belt," they'd say. "That's Cassiopeia, the lady in the chair."

Now Cabbage, 42, takes his two children outside, points at the sky and says, "That's Orion, and those are the stars in his belt. . . ."

"Heck," Cabbage said, "I can still remember some of the Morse code."

Knotty Problem

Jim Hubbell can't remember how to tie the knots. Never learned, he said. "I can tie a square knot and that's about it." The Hubbell Realty Co. president isn't even sure how to pronounce "bowline."

"And it's all about rabbits and going around trees and jumping back into their holes, and I never could figure that out," he said.

Kevin Flagg remembers contests to start fires with flint and steel. "I'd forgotten about them till our company got a contract to make 50,000 of these flint and steel kits."

Flagg, 39, is vice president of sales for Dilley Manufacturing Co. in Des Moines. "I don't think anybody in the history of Scouting has ever started a fire with a flint and steel kit," he said. When his troop had to do it, boys tried to sneak matches out of their front pockets.

What this means, of course, is there is at least one Dilley product Flagg cannot stand behind. "I'm just thinking of the futility of 50,000 users trying to start a fire."

Father of Daughters

Bob Sherer had such a good experience as a Scout in Evanston, Ill., that he said yes in 1955, when a couple of men from Plymouth Congregational came to his house and asked him to lead Troop 50. Sherer, father of four daughters, was Scoutmaster until 1965.

When young Scouts — Tenderfoots — memorized the Scout law and oath, he asked them to explain what the words meant: serving God and country, keeping physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight, being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

Sherer is 74, and he can still recite those words. Sometimes they just run through his head, he said. "In other words, I live by that. And always have."

Iowa Boy



Chuck Offenburger

A homecoming Christmas show

There are so many wonderful Christmas musicals happening around Iowa right now that you can't begin to get to them all.

But one concert that looks exceptional is set for 7:30 tonight and will be repeated at 3 p.m. Sunday at Plymouth Congregational Church, in Des Moines, which has one of the best church music programs in the state.

The show is "Saint Nicolas," a Christmas oratorio that will tell the story of the fourth-century bishop who became the patron saint of children, sailors and travelers. It is his spirit that became one of our most important holiday symbols.

"We're calling this our first annual 'Welcome Christmas Concert,'" said Janet Davis, director of adult music and fine arts at Plymouth Church.

It will be done with a 10-piece orchestra and Plymouth's top adult and high school choirs, which will perform traditional carols in addition to the "Saint Nicolas" story.

What I especially like about this is that for the lead role, Davis is bringing home one of Iowa's best young singers, Theodore (Ted) Green, 22, of Adel, who is now studying opera at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston.



Green
Young star

A 1995 music graduate of Simpson College, in Indianola, Green was a regional finalist in last spring's New York Metropolitan

Opera auditions. He also sang the last two summers in productions of the Des Moines Metro Opera, one of his chief roles being Tobias in "Sweeney Todd."

And he was in a quartet that opened opera star Simon Estes' concert at the Des Moines Civic Center in July.

"I'm really thrilled to be coming home to do 'Saint Nicolas,'" Green said. "We did it my junior year at Simpson, and it's an incredible piece, very powerful and moving. The story is about a series of miracles Saint Nicolas performs helping the poor and destitute."

Plymouth's Davis calls Green "one of the upcoming young tenor stars."

He is a third-generation Green singer. His grandfather, the late Donald Green, was a professional who traveled in road shows in the 1940s and "almost made it big," said Rev. Hal Green, who is Ted's father and serves as pastor of the United Methodist Church in Adel.

"I've always been a singer, too, and there was a time when I thought theater was going to be my life," Hal Green said. "But then I decided to use my theatrics in another way — in the ministry."

How good is his son?

"Well, I'm completely biased, of course, but I think he has enormous potential," Hal said.

"His voice is a real instrument, a better one I think than either his grandfather or I had. And he has tremendous passion and focus. He's as devoted to music as you can be. It's his whole life, and that's what it takes."

What draws young Ted Green, who was an All-State singer in high school, to opera?

"The intense emotion," he said. "It is the most challenging thing I could ever think to do."

"What I really like is its combination of theater and music, and the passion and power it produces. Am I babbling here? Well, I love it. I love to sing it and see how it moves people."

He is on a fast track at the New England Conservatory, where he is pursuing a master's degree in performance. It's a professionally minded student body of about 750 who commit to a program that "is very intense, with a whole lot of practice," he said.

Green has already had roles with the Conservatory's opera company and with the Natchez Opera Festival in Mississippi. He just performed Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" with the Harvard Baroque Society.

He sang in his father's churches as he grew up, and he is now singing on most Sundays as a paid soloist with the choir at Beverly Farms Episcopal Church outside Boston.

Tickets for his appearance in Plymouth's "Welcome Christmas" concert tonight and Sunday are available at the door or by calling (515) 255-3149. They cost \$8 for general seating and \$12 for reserved seats.

Phyllis Mau, 92, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of a heart ailment Thursday at Iowa Lutheran Hospital. Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. The body has been cremated, and burial of the cremains will be private.

Mrs. Mau was born in Pleasantville and had lived in Des Moines since 1954. She was a retired clerk for the state of Iowa.

Survivors include three sons, Jack of Minnetonka, Minn.; Bob of Park Ridge, Ill.; and Jim of Durham, N.C.; a brother, Gabe Leutzing of Cedar Falls; 14 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

10/28/95

Laurence Charles Morris, 93, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of a respiratory ailment Monday at



Iowa Methodist Medical Center. A memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Dunn's Funeral Home and private burial of the cremains will be in Woodland Cemetery.

Mr. Morris, an Army veteran of World War II, was a lifelong Des Moines resident and retired financial adviser. He was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and Des Moines Pioneer Club and a charter member of the Des Moines Club.

A niece and a nephew survive. Memorial contributions may be made to Blank Children's Hospital.

9/6/95

Charlotte M. Clemens, 76, of 3663 Grand Ave. died of cancer Monday at Hospice Kavanagh



House, 900 56th St. Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Clemens, a homemaker, was born in Fari-

bault, Minn., and moved to Des Moines in 1942. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, PEO chapter HM and Des Moines Women's Club.

Among survivors are her husband, Philip; a daughter, Janet Frederick of Solon; two sons, Michael of Milwaukee and James of Plymouth, Minn.; two sisters, Anna Hansen of Hollywood, Fla., and Florence Lyons of Lake City, Minn.; a brother, Jack Backman of Waseca, Minn.; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central Iowa or PEO Continuing Education fund.

10/18/95

John H. Raife, 73, of 649 Harwood Drive died of cancer Sunday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The



body was cremated and memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member.

Mr. Raife was born in Estherville and moved to Des Moines in 1949. He retired last year as a partner in the Dickinson Law Firm and was past president of the Polk County Bar Association, and past chairman of the boards of Iowa Health Systems and Iowa Methodist Health Foundation. He was also a volunteer with Blank Children's Hospital Guild and a member of the state and national bar associations.

Surviving are his wife, Betty; four sons, John Jr. of Phoenix, Ariz., Tom of Milwaukee and Ted and Jim, both of Des Moines; and 12 grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to his church, Iowa Methodist Health Foundation or the American Cancer Society. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

10/3/95

Genevieve R. Wood, 98, of Heather Manor, 600 E. Fifth St., died of a heart ailment there Tuesday. Grave-



side services are at 2:30 p.m. Friday at Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Wood, a homemaker, was born in Lajunta, Colo., and lived in Des Moines most of her life. She was a member of

Abigail Adams chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, Order of the Eastern Star, Des Moines Women's Club and Kiwanis Ladies.

Among survivors are a son, Thomas of Des Moines; a daughter, Carol Ann Barnes of Ottumwa; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Friends may call from 6:30 to 8 p.m. today at Hamilton's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Plymouth Congregational Church.

10/5/95

Marie Y. Rittenhouse, 96, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of cancer Sunday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.



The body was cremated and private graveside services will be in Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Mrs. Rittenhouse, a homemaker, was born

in Des Moines and returned in 1963. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

There are no immediate survivors. Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Acres Good Samaritan fund. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

10/4/95

Lucille L. Rankin, 41, of 304 Glenview Drive died of a gunshot wound Friday at home. The death has been ruled a homicide. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Bybee and Davis Funeral Home in Knoxville, with burial at Ottumwa Cemetery.

Mrs. Rankin was born in Ottumwa and had lived in Knoxville several years, moving to Des Moines more than 10 years ago. She was employed by CIC Associates and had been a member of Plymouth Congregational Church.

A brother, William Sullivan of Knoxville, survives.

Friends may call after 9 a.m. Tuesday at the funeral home, where the family will be present from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Polk County Victim Services.

11-13-95

Marie L. Wilkinson, 90, of Luther Park Health Care Center, 1555 Hull Ave., died of Alzheimer's disease



there Friday. Services will be at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday at Hamilton's Funeral Home, with burial at Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Wilkinson was born in Des Moines and had

lived here many years. She was a retired secretary for Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was also a member.

Nieces and nephews survive.

Friends may call one hour prior to services Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to her church.

10/23/95

Helen Harriet Parker, 90, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of complications of Alzheimer's disease Thursday at home. Services will be private.



The body has been cremated, and burial of the cremains will be at Woodland Cemetery.

Miss Parker was born in Des Moines and lived here most of her life. She was a retired medical librarian at Veterans Medical Center and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, PEO and Altrusa Club.

There are no immediate survivors.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or Grinnell College. McLaren's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

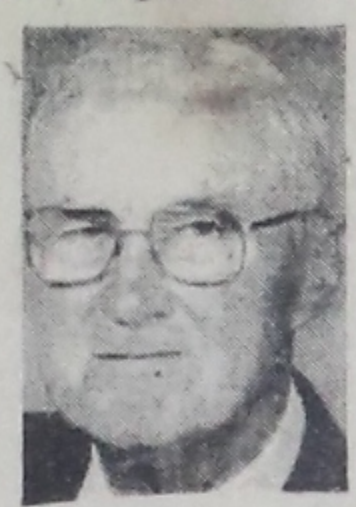
10/28/95

DES MOINES DEATHS

The Altar Committee of Plymouth Congregational Church is looking for leftover gourds, pumpkins and squash to decorate the church's altar. If you have some still in good shape, call 277-1144 after 6 p.m. and they will pick them up.

11/18/95

Robert K. Buck, 83, of 915 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, died of complications of Parkinson's disease Saturday at Hospice Kavanagh



House, 900 56th St., Des Moines. Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which he was a member. Burial

will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Ames Municipal Cemetery.

Mr. Buck was born in Diagonal and had worked in agricultural development for the Iowa and U.S. Departments of Agriculture. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Among survivors are his wife, Mary Ellen; a daughter, Martha Glaza of Urbandale; a brother, James of Palm Coast, Fla.; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. Monday at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 5 to 7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice Kavanagh House.

10-8-95

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCES

■ The Department of Outreach and Nurture of the Des Moines Area Religious Council will present a "Special Deeds for Special Needs" seminar at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Suzanne Howard and the Rev. David Johnston will lead presentations about people who have emotional, mental and physical disabilities.

11-14-95

Dec. 1994

Area churches offer array of activities that focus on meaning of Christmas

Amid the culture's frenetic pace of spending, partying and getting the last packages and cards in the mail, area churches have arranged an array of opportunities to pause and experience the meaning of Christmas during the final week of Advent.

There will be live nativity scenes on church lawns. Inside, there will be cantatas, dramas, musicals and pageants. The traditional "Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols" will be widely presented. There will be elaborate productions and the simple Sunday school programs you remember from childhood, with little shepherds and wise men in bathrobes. When Christmas Eve arrives, the emphasis will be on candlelight, carols and Holy Communion as the commotion of the season gives way to a very special Silent Night. Activities include:

TODAY

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 5625 Franklin Ave. — Chorus presentation of "Bethlehem's Treasure," 6:30 p.m.

New Hope Assembly of God, 6800 Townsend Ave. Musical drama "From Heaven's Throne," 6 p.m. today and Sunday.

SUNDAY

Bethany Reformed Church, 720 N.E. 52nd Ave. — Program with all church choirs, 6 p.m.

Calvary Church of the Open Bible, 555 E. Euclid Ave. — Musical "Repeat the Sounding Joy," 6 p.m.

Capitol Hill Christian Church, 3322 E. 25th St. — Christmas pageant, 7 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church, 10395 University Ave., Clive — Lessons and Carols by church choirs, 8:15 and 11 a.m. services; Vocal Arts Ensemble presentation of "Magnificat," 4 p.m.; and old-fashioned German Christmas service, 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church, 620 Eighth St. — Chancel and children's choirs presenting "Festival of Music," 9:30 a.m.

First Christian Church, 2500 University Ave. — Program "Welcome the Child," 10:30 a.m. with soloists and chancel, bell and Kids of the Kingdom choirs.

First Lutheran Church, 511 Des Moines St. — Nine Lessons and Carols, 10:30 a.m.; Homebound Christmas Communion Service, 2:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church, 1001 Pleasant St. — Choir, hand-bell musicians and organist will participate in 10:30 a.m. service patterned after a 19th century holiday church service.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 8301 Aurora Ave., Urbandale — Festival of Lessons and Carols, 5 p.m. with the adult, children's and hand-bell choirs and instrumentalists.

Grace United Methodist Church, 3700 Cottage Grove Ave. — Children's pageant, 9 a.m.; Advent drama, 7 p.m.

Guthrie Center Presbyterian and Christian churches — Live nativity beginning at 5 p.m. at the Guthrie Sale Barn by members of both churches. Canned goods will be collected for the Outreach

Center in Guthrie Center.

Meredith Drive Reformed Church, 5128 N.W. Meredith Drive — Christmas musical "King Jesus Is His Name," 8, 9:20 and 10:45 a.m. by the 75-voice sanctuary choir and orchestra.

St. Augustin Catholic Church, 545 42nd St. — Musica Ecclesia, the choir of the Des Moines Catholic Diocese, presents "Nine Lessons and Carols," 4 p.m., accompanied by Des Moines Symphony Brass Quintet. A reception afterward in the parish center.

St. Mark Lutheran Church, 801 12th St., West Des Moines — "Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols," 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 3900 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines — "A Sterling Christmas" cantata, 6:30 p.m. by the massed choirs and a live orchestra. Kristen Kuhlmann and the Kuhlmann Sisters will be guest vocalists.

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. — "A Ceremony of Carols" by women of the chancel and Senior Matins choirs, 9 and 11 a.m.; "Christmas Music for Organ, Harpsichord and Flute," 3 p.m.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2600 E. Euclid Ave. — Service of Christmas choral music, 9 a.m.

West Des Moines United Methodist Church, 720 Grand Ave. — A "Carols and Caroling Celebration," 4 p.m., by children's, youth and adult choirs plus some congregational participation.

Westlark Presbyterian Church, 2700 Colby Woods Drive, Urbandale — Children's Christmas program, "Our Gift To Him," 4 p.m. Mittens and gloves will be collected for children in need.

OBITUARIES

Bernice Bristol, 95, of Plymouth Place, 4111 Ingersoll Ave., died of a stroke Friday at Lutheran Medical Center in Wheat Ridge, Colo. The body was donated to the University of Iowa for medical research and a memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Aug. 23 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, of which she was a member. Burial of the cremains will be in Corydon at a later date.



Mrs. Bristol was born in Wayne County and lived in Des Moines 22 years. She was a member of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

Among survivors are a son, Joe of Denver, Colo.; a daughter, Mary Lou Lynch of Des Moines; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Corydon Methodist Church. Arrangements were handled by Morgan Mortuary in Arvada, Colo.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Acres Good Samaritan fund. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Esthel E. Shelton, 94, of 1501 64th St. died of a stroke Friday at Luther Park Health Care Center, 1555 Hull Ave. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at IOOF Cemetery in Bloomfield. Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines.

Mrs. Shelton was born in Drakesville and had lived in Des Moines since 1935. She was a retired salesclerk at Younkers.

Surviving are two daughters, Joann Connelly and Doris Shoning, both of Des Moines; a brother, Lonel Henderson of Memphis, Tenn.; three sisters, Leona Keesey of Keokuk, Helen Thompson of Drakesville and Aurthella Dodge of Milton; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are being handled by Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield.

Katherine C. Woodburn, 99, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of pneumonia there Tuesday. A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial of the cremains will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in Resthaven Cemetery.

Mrs. Woodburn was born in Washington, D.C., and moved to Des Moines in 1918. She was a homemaker.

Among survivors are three sons, F. Coville of Ormond Beach, Fla., Chester of Des Moines and Boynton of Waukee; 12 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Acres Good Samaritan fund. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

BRIEFLY IN RELIGION

Plymouth Church to conduct series on decision-making

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., will conduct a four-week series, "Exploring the Role of Faith and Ethics in Responsible Decision-Making," beginning Sunday.

The one-hour sessions will begin at 9:15 a.m. and will be repeated at 10:30 a.m. Presentations include discussion by a lawyer, a clinical social worker and a panel of three educators.

The last session will focus on personal decision-making skills.

A reception will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Sept. 23 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., for the Rev. James Gilliom, former senior minister of the church. He will be in Des Moines promoting his book "Walking on Water," a series of his sermons on the miracles of Jesus, and will sign copies of the book. Profits from the visit will go to the Plymouth Pastor's Fund.

Paul Winter Consort — Consort performs "Missa Gaia (Earth Mass)" with the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ Chancel and Sr. Matins choirs, 7:30 p.m. May 6 and 3 p.m. May 7 in the Plymouth Sanctuary, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Tickets: \$18/\$25. On sale Monday. Call 255-3149.

The Plymouth Organ Series. Organist Carl Gravander performs the Music of Lent Sunday, April 9 at 3:00 p.m. in the Plymouth Sanctuary, 4126 Ingersoll.



In celebration of the 25th Anniversary of
Earth Day
The Plymouth Fine Arts Series proudly
presents the 1995 Grammy-Award
winning

PAUL WINTER CONSORT

In a performance of
Missa Gaia (Earth Mass)
With the Chancel and Sr. Matins Choirs
of Plymouth Church

Saturday, May 6-7:30 p.m.
and

Sunday, May 7-3:00 p.m.
(Doors open one hour prior to concert time)

Plymouth Congregational U.C.C.
4126 Ingersoll Avenue, Des Moines



Tickets are \$25-forward seating; \$18-general admission, and are available by calling
Kathie Sankey in the Plymouth music office at (515)255-3149. Credit cards are acceptable.



Paul Winter mixes jazz, classical, sacred and
world music with sounds from nature.

Music

It's Winter in spring

► **Who:** Paul Winter Consort
► **When:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 3
p.m. Sunday

Music REVIEW

Winter's 'Earth Mass' captures rhythms of nature

By PHYLLIS WOLFE
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Most call his music "New Age." Grammy-award-winning Paul Winter says his works evoke "the greater symphony of the Earth."

So, in celebration of Earth Day, the Plymouth Fine Arts Series of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ presented the Paul Winter Consort in "Missa Gaia/Earth Mass," Saturday night in Des Moines.

In what was very much a concert, and not a single work centering on a Mass, the audience of some 700 heard music that was based on jazz rhythms entwined with Gregorian chants.

A choir of 200 joined with soloists as well as recorded voices of whales and wolves. And there was the sonority of the pipe organ contrasted with a hand-percussion solo by Glen Velez.

There even was a nifty piano solo by Paul Halley, who has to be one of the most accomplished instrumentalists, composers and ar-

rangers ever. The work was entitled "Bulgarian Cowboy," and Velez played back-up percussion for it, too.

And, as if all of that were not enough, there was the music of Johann Sebastian Bach given a twist with a Brazilian beat.

Plymouth's Senior Matins Choir and Chancel Choir sang for the numbers that help to make up the "Earth Mass." Forest Stewart played bass, Pete Simonson was on percussion and Carl Gravander was at the organ.

For the "Kyrie," soprano Sharon Parker-Lenihan's voice came from the balcony in the back of the church as the song of an Alaskan tundra wolf came from a recording. Winter's sax echoed the phrases, too. This movement ended with the chorus humming a simple chord.

"Adoro Te Devote" is based on Gregorian chant. The women in the choir open with single melodic lines answered by the men.

"Agnus Dei" and "Let Us Depart in Peace" were ensemble numbers very much in the

Mass style, even with the jazz beat underneath.

"Promise of a Fisherman" has Brazilian roots and had the singers and instrumentalists and audience all having a rousing good time.

"Winter's Dream" featured Winter on the sax and Halley at the organ. Written for their New York Winter Solstice Concerts, the instruments seem to be beseeching the sun to return. "Return to Gaia" found Halley at the organ, making it sound ethereal. Winter's sax wailed from the back balcony as the sounds resolved into more familiar intonations.

"Wolf Eyes" featured a wolf closer to home — northern Minnesota. Winter mimicked the animal calls at first, then became more melodic, then ended up howling, asking everyone to join in a "Howl-eluia" chorus.

This music may be difficult to categorize, but it certainly brought the Saturday night audience together.

The program will be repeated today at 3 p.m.

■ **The Paul Winter Consort** will perform at 7:30 p.m. May 6 and 3 p.m. May 7 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., as part of the Plymouth Fine Arts Series. The performance of Winter's *Missa Gaia* will include 200 members of Plymouth's Chancel and St. Matins choirs. For tickets, call the church music office.

► **Where: Plymouth Congregational Church**

With a last name like Winter, it seems natural that composer/musician Paul Winter would call his music "Earth Music."

Winter's Grammy-winning music weaves diverse musical traditions — jazz, classical, sacred and world music — with the sounds of non-human inhabitants of Earth. On Saturday and Sunday, the Paul Winter Consort will perform "Missa Gaia (Earth Mass)" with the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ Chancel and Senior Matins choirs. "Missa" will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Earth Day and features Winter's soprano saxophone improvisations accompanying recorded wolf, eagle and whale song.

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday in the Plymouth Sanctuary, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Tickets are \$25 for forward seating, \$18 for general admission/mid-seating, \$12 for special rate/back seating and \$10 for student discount/back seating. Call 255-3149.

RELIGION

Terror in the name of God

Bible used 'as cloak for all kinds of bad behavior'

By WILLIAM SIMBRO

REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

The dark side of religion has made such an indelible imprint on the American psyche that when a terrorist commits an act of violence, increasingly one of the first thoughts is whether the act is religiously motivated.

In the early moments of television coverage of the April 19 bombing in Oklahoma City, speculation first centered on possible revenge by Branch Davidians on the second an-

NEWS ANALYSIS

niversary of the inferno at the cult's Waco, Texas, compound. Reporters noted that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which raided the Davidians, was housed in the bombed federal building.

Moments later, it was reported that an anonymous telephone caller said the Nation of Islam, an American-based Muslim movement, was responsible. Then came reports of a recent gathering of Muslim groups in the city. Gradually, speculation moved toward international terrorism centered in the Middle East.

Religious Motivations

With the arrest of Timothy McVeigh, the official investigation focused on domestic terrorism from right-wing paramilitary groups. Many in these groups profess religious — often Christian — motivations.

Much of the anti-government anger expressed by such groups focuses on the raid and ensuing inferno at the Branch Davidian compound where 86 people were killed two years to the day before the Oklahoma bombing. David Koresh, leader of the apocalyptic cult, was among the dead. After his excommunication from the Seventh-day Adventist Church, he became the Davidian leader. He preached a rambling version of Bible prophecies of doom and amassed an arsenal of weapons.

Religious leaders and scholars find it sad and ironic that religion can motivate people to the heights of noble, loving and self-giving deeds and to

the depths of violent acts. Iowans interviewed for this article pointed out that from the dawn of civilization, horrible wars and terrorism were spawned by religion. People were burned at the stake for their beliefs, for refusal to convert to another religion or for suspicion of being witches.

List of Inhumanities

Meanwhile, the current generation has witnessed its share of inhumanity, such as:

- 25 years of Protestant and Catholic terrorism in Northern Ireland.
- Alleged or proven terrorist acts in the name of Islam.
- Hindu-Sikh and Hindu-Muslim violence in India.
- The Aum Shinri Kyo cult's suspected release of deadly nerve gas in the Tokyo subways.
- American Christian extremists shooting doctors who perform legal abortions.

And the sad list goes on.

One clergyman interviewed this week, the Rev. William Larson, executive director of the Iowa Baptist Conference and president of the Iowa Association of Evangelicals, offered this observation of today's turmoil:

"The name 'Christian' is attached to 'born again' Bible-believing people (whose lives are changed for good by their faith). And 'Christian' is attached also to those without the faintest understanding of it, and whose faith doesn't inform their behavior.

"Ultra right-wing groups that call themselves Christian are scary to me," Larson said. "They use the Bible as a cloak for all kinds of bad behavior."

Ultimate Views

Another version is that of the Rev. David Ruhe, pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, who said:

"People never do evil so cheerfully as when they do it in the name of God. . . . Religion employs the rhetoric of ultimate things that are more important than life itself. When ultimate beliefs clash with other ultimate beliefs, it is possible for people to have a sense of self-righteousness

that eclipses all boundaries of reason."

Said David Crownfield, professor of religion and philosophy at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls:

"Religion gives us a way to deal with death, guilt, loneliness, disappointment, within a community of meaning and value. What happens is people who have a different way of coping appear to be a threat to our way . . . It can lead to violence."

Truth With Capital T

Rabbi Neil Sandler of Tifereth Israel Synagogue in Des Moines said, "When you have 'Truth' with a capital 'T' it can lead to a pathological expression."

Mohamad Khan, spiritual leader of the Des Moines Islamic Center, said the Muslim faith rejects terrorism. "Religion means mercy," Khan said. "People who do violence are far from Islam." Khan said Islam permits participation in war. But, even then, the religion teaches to not kill or hurt women, children, the elderly "and not even trees unless needed for firewood."

Hope is still evident amid the whirlwind of senseless violence.

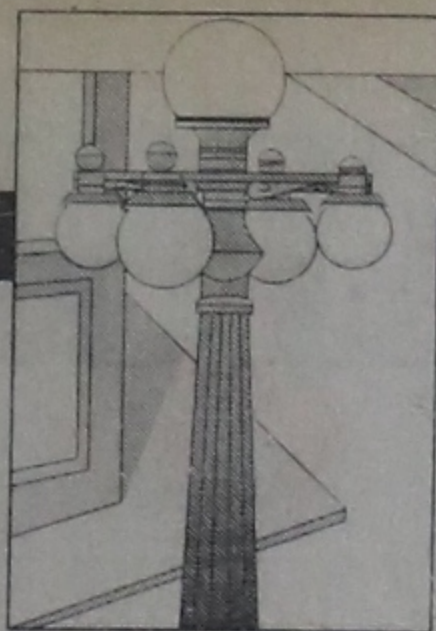
"We need to use the police power in effective ways," Crownfield said. "But we must try to move toward a world where we are more open to the values of others and where people see opportunities for living fulfilling lives in non-violent ways."

Looking for Scapegoats

The Rev. Linda Hansen, minister of People's Church in Cedar Rapids, observed that some looked for religious scapegoats with the first reports out of Oklahoma.

"I get my hope from people who keep caring," she said. "They have poured out in great numbers to help" in the Oklahoma tragedy. "There are unnumbered heroes who are motivated by their religious faith. I see them in my church. Sometimes they astound me."

"There is so very much we need to work on in connecting religion and reason," said the Rev. Thea Nietfeld, minister of First Unitarian Church in Des Moines. "There is rational religion."



MEET ME ON THE CORNER

WINDOWS TO THE PAST AND PRESENT IN DES MOINES

5/31/95

Eighth and Pleasant



STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In its nearly 140 years, Plymouth Congregational Church has seen four churches built, the last on the west side of the city at 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

Until 1927, however, the church, one of the oldest in the city, was an anchor in the downtown area at Eighth and Pleasant streets, top photo.

Plymouth Congregational Church was organized in 1857 with 10 members. The first church, a small frame building, was on Court Avenue. While at this location, the church was used by the underground railroad, hiding slaves on their journey north.

The city was growing rapidly and as it did, so did the church. In 1864 the church with 66 members moved farther uptown to the northeast corner of Seventh and Locust streets. In 1893, the church established the Sunbeam Mission, which operated until 1906 at 212 Walnut St. The mission offered housing and food, operated an employment agency, a home for errant girls, a sewing school and various other projects.

In 1900 plans were drawn up for what would be one of the most magnificent churches in the city at Eighth and Pleasant streets. There was no intersection at the location then because Eighth Street ended

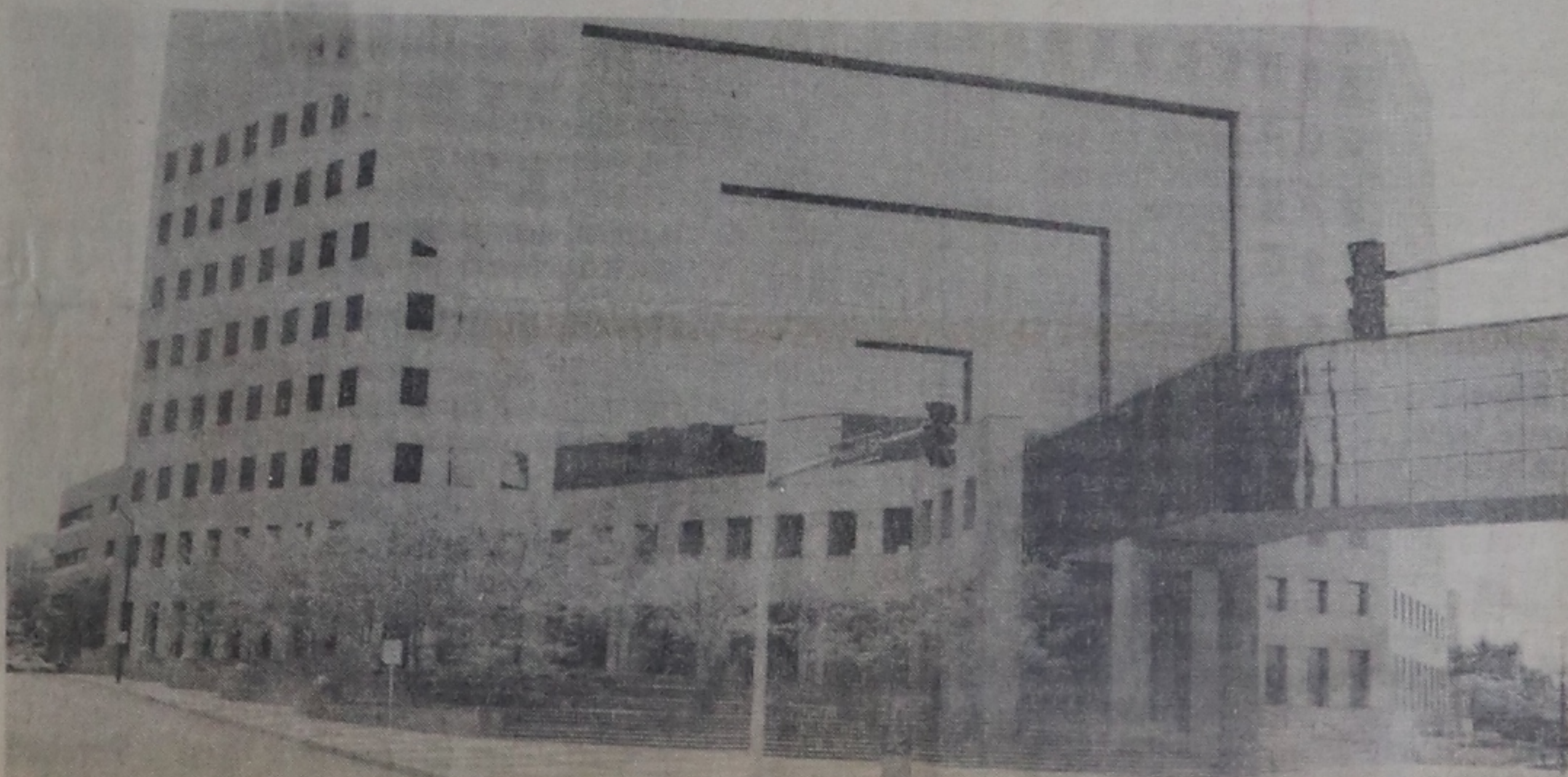
at Pleasant. In 1902, the new church was completed and joined other downtown Des Moines churches in an area that had become known as "Piety Hill."

Plymouth, with nearly 1,300 members, faced a problem confronted by many downtown churches — parking. Hitching posts had to be installed. When church services were over, a traffic gridlock of buggies and wagons often delayed Sunday dinners.

However, the church, grand as it was, remained on Pleasant a relatively short time. The ever-expanding city sought to extend Eighth Street to Keosauqua Way, which was being developed as an artery to Beaverdale. The last service was held on Easter 1925 after the city acquired the site for an Eighth Street right of way. The church was razed and the present church on Ingersoll Avenue was completed in 1927. The old blended with the new, however, when stained glass windows from the old church were installed in the new one.

Today, the old church site is part of The Principal building complex, bottom photo.

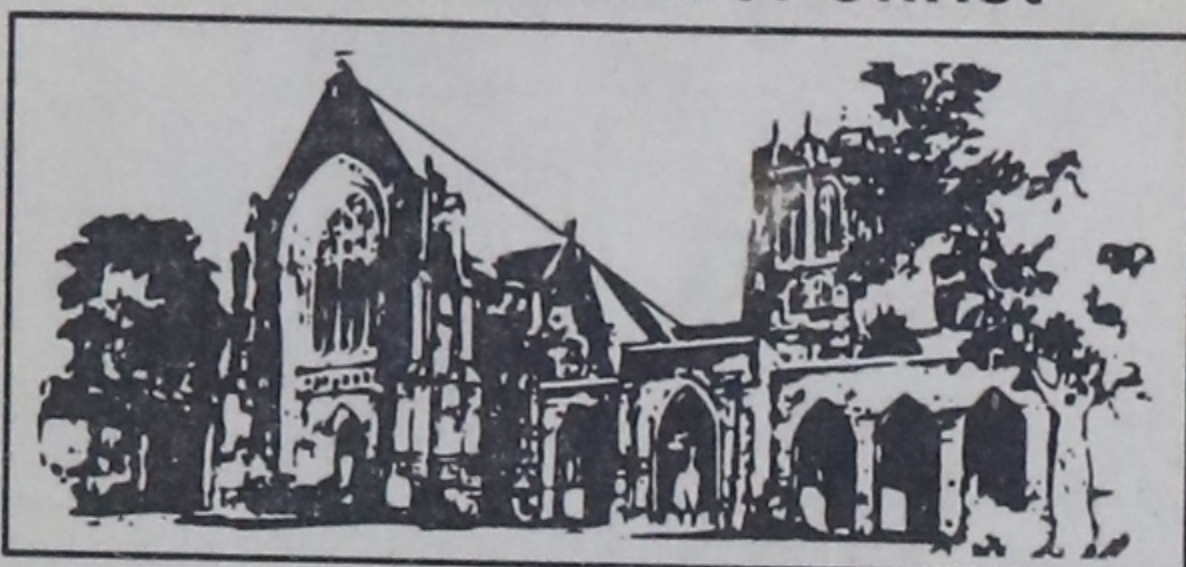
— Linda Banger



EASTER

at

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL United Church of Christ



EVERYBODY WELCOME!

6:30 A.M. ECUMENICAL SUNRISE SERVICE

- ★ At Churches United Shelter
15th & Locust
- ★ Matins Youth Choir

9:00 & 11:00 A.M. FESTIVAL WORSHIP SERVICES

- ★ Matins choirs (9:00)
Chancel choir (11:00)
- ★ Sermon by Dr. David Ruhe
- ★ No church school. Preschool
childcare.

7:15-10:30 A.M. EASTER BREAKFAST AT THE CHURCH

4126 Ingersoll (just 2 blocks South of
42nd Street Freeway Exit) 255-3149

OBITUARIES

James LeBaron Schlafer, 75, of 1224 49th St., West Des Moines, died of a heart attack Friday at Iowa



Methodist Medical Center. The body was cremated and no services are planned.

Mr. Schlafer was born in Appleton, Wis., and had lived in West Des Moines since 1962. He retired

as a sales clerk at Younkers and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and Za-Ga-Zig Shrine Temple.

Surviving are his wife, Billie; two daughters, Jill Bassman of West Des Moines and Jean Braden of Jefferson; a sister, Eleanor Kingston of Maine; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Variety Club of Iowa or the Children's Home Society of Minnesota. Westover Funeral Home handled arrangements.

James Thompson McMillan, 78, of 2430 Terrace Road died Tuesday of injuries suffered in an auto accident in Grantsburg, Wis. A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, of which he was a member. Burial of the cremains will be at Oakland Cemetery in St. Paul, Minn.



Dr. McMillan was born in St. Paul and moved to Des Moines in 1950. He was a retired radiologist and past president of the medical staff at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. He had served on the board of Iowa Methodist Health Foundation and was a member of several professional organizations.

Surviving are two sisters, Genevieve Sivertsen of Fort Worth, Texas, and Mary Claypool of Grand Rapids, Minn.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., for the James T. McMillan Fellowship in Radiology, or to the Foundation Fighting Blindness in Baltimore. Bradshaw-Listoe-Wold Funeral Home in St. Paul handled arrangements there.

Charline H. Wohlrabe, 73, of 1172 20th St., West Des Moines, died of a respiratory ailment Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. A memorial service will be at 4 p.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ. Burial of the cremains will be at Swiss Church Cemetery in New Glarus, Wis., at a later date.



Mrs. Wohlrabe was born in New Glarus and lived in West Des Moines 27 years. She retired from Younkers department store and was a past officer in the Learning Disabilities Association of Iowa.

Surviving are two daughters, Sarah Shortall of Arlington, Va., and Sue Burke of Ames; a son, John of Des Moines; a sister, Carol Diekroeger of Wauwatosa, Wis.; and five grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or the Central Iowa chapter Learning Disabilities Association. Arrangements are being handled by McLaren's Funeral Chapel.

Eileen Tracy Brown, 84, of 3333 Grand Ave. died of a respiratory ailment May 3 at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. May 26 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Private burial of the cremains will be in Guthrie Center Cemetery. The date of death and day of service were incorrect in a previous obituary.

Mrs. Brown was born in Fontanelle and lived in Des Moines 40 years, coming from Glenwood. She retired as a co-owner of newspapers in Bayard, Panora, Scranton, Guthrie Center and Glenwood, and also retired from the Iowa Daily Press Association. She was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution.

Surviving are a daughter, Judith King of New York City; a son, William of Des Moines; a sister, Rebecca Lemke of Solon; a brother, James Tracy of Osage; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to Guthrie County Turn of the Century Museum in Panora. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Eileen Tracy Brown, 84, of 3333 Grand Ave. died of a respiratory ailment Wednesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Private burial of the cremains will be in Guthrie Center Cemetery.



Mrs. Brown was born in Fontanelle and lived in Des Moines 40 years, coming from Glenwood. She was a retired co-owner of newspapers in Bayard, Panora, Scranton, Guthrie Center and Glenwood, and also retired from the Iowa Daily Press Association. She was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution.

Surviving are a daughter, Judith King of New York City; a son, William of Des Moines; a sister, Rebecca Lemke of Solon; a brother, James Tracy of Osage; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to Guthrie County Turn of the Century Museum in Panora. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Linda Bane Laughman, 55, of Indianapolis died of multiple sclerosis Friday at Greenbriar Care Center there. Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines.

Mrs. Laughman had lived in Des Moines most of her life, moving to Indiana in 1990. She had been a bookkeeper for Weitz Construction and was a member of the Multiple Sclerosis Society and P.E.O.

Surviving are a son, Mark of Des Moines, and a brother, Henry Bane of Indianapolis.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Arrangements are being handled by Aaron-Ruben Nelson Meridian Hills Mortuary in Indianapolis.

3/17/95

John E. Peterson, 83, of 333 49th St. died Wednesday at Wesley Acres Care Center of complications of Alzheimer's disease. Private burial in Glendale Cemetery will precede a 1 p.m. memorial service next Wednesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member.

Mr. Peterson was born in Kensett and lived in Des Moines about 60 years. He retired as executive vice president and secretary of Dial Finance, now Norwest Financial, and served on the board of directors for 35 years. He was a member of the Iowa and American bar associations, Optimist Club and Iowa Consumer Finance Association. He also was a board member for Orchard Place, Generations Inc. and the Iowa Mental Health Association.

Among survivors are his wife, Madalyn; two daughters, Sandra Peterson of Des Moines and Susan Wistey of West Des Moines; and two grandchildren.

The family will visit with friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday at Dunn's Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to his church, Wesley Acres or for Alzheimer's research.



3-1-95

Dorothy M. Golden, 84, of 1806 36th St. died of a heart ailment Saturday at home. Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery.



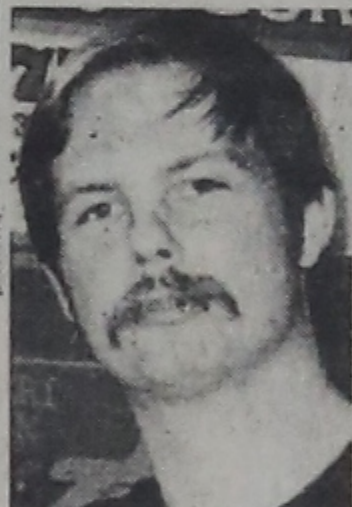
Mrs. Golden, a homemaker, was born in Springfield, Ill., and lived in Des Moines most of her life. She was a member of Des Moines chapter Order of the Eastern Star, Des Moines Organ Club and PEO.

Among survivors are a son, John of Pittsford, N.Y.; and two grandchildren.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will greet friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to her church or the American Cancer Society.

ER ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1995 5M

Brian Keith Porcher, 41, of 2901 High St. died Saturday at Hospice Kavanagh House of complications of AIDS. Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, and burial will be in Glendale Cemetery.



Mr. Porcher, who was a distribution manager for Neodata, was born in San Diego and moved to Des Moines from San Francisco 14 years ago.

He has no immediate survivors.

Memorial contributions may be made to AIDS Project of Central Iowa, for which he was a volunteer. Hamilton's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

ARIES

3/20/95

Mary C. Hampton, 91, of Heather Manor, 600 E. Fifth St., died of a heart ailment March 13 at home.



Services will be at 4 p.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member, with burial at Graceland Cemetery in Webster City.

Mrs. Hampton was born in Warren County and had lived in Des Moines since 1923. She was retired from an investment company and was a member of Des Moines Symphony Guild, Blank Children's Hospital Guild and Goodwill Industries Auxiliary.

Survivors include two sons, William of Naples, Fla., and Kendall of Indian Hills, Colo.; a daughter, Mary Ditmore of Marlboro, Mass.; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or Blank Children's Hospital. Merle Hay Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ **The Rev. Martha Hendricks** has been named minister of pastoral care on the staff of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. She had held that position at Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis since 1989, and earlier had served churches in Neenah, Rhinelander and Fall Creek, Wis.

Willette C. Collins, 92, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of a respiratory ailment there March 10. Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Dunn's Funeral Home, and burial will be at Masonic Cemetery in Dallas Center.

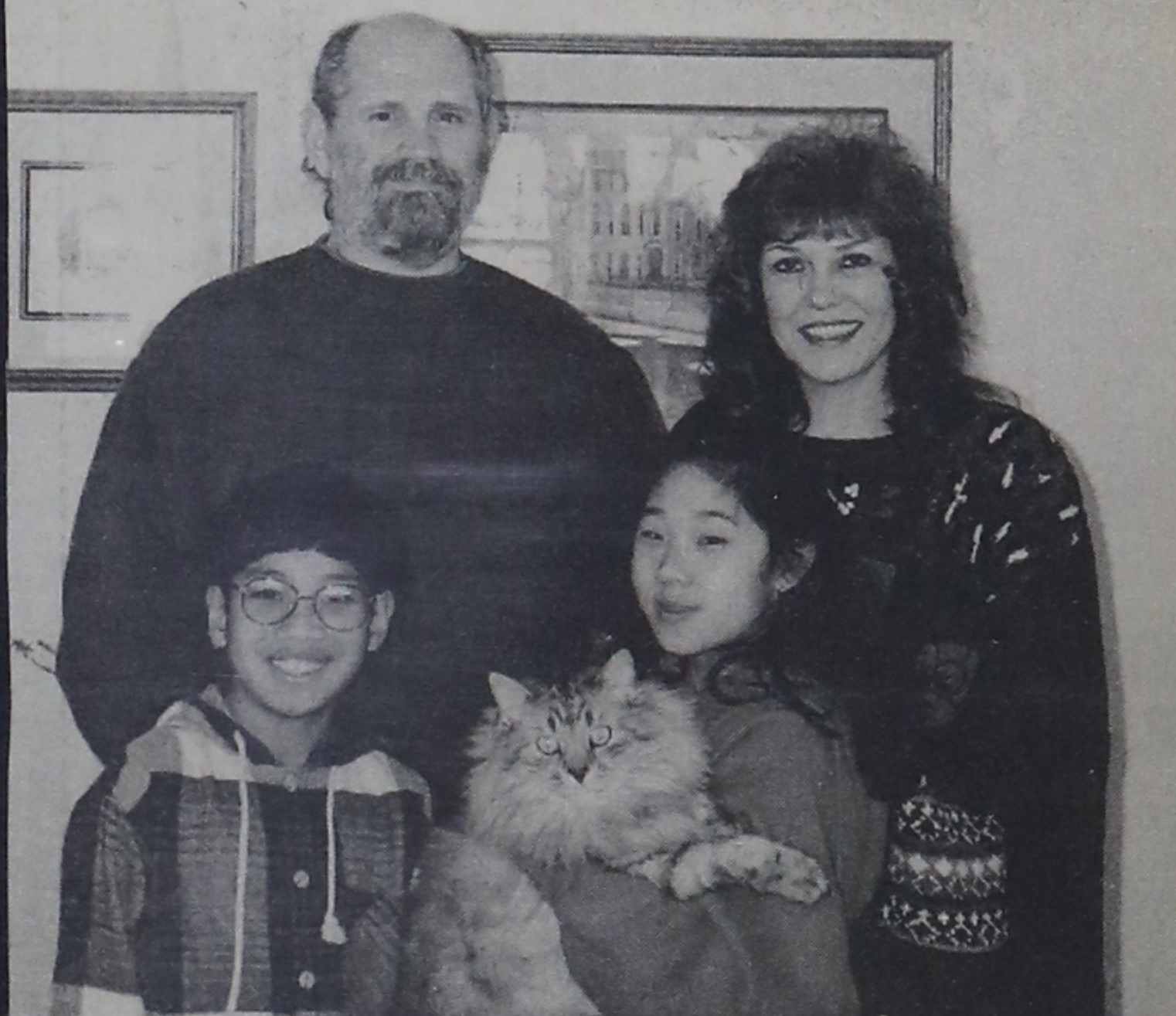
Mrs. Collins was born in Gridley, Ill., and lived in Dallas Center 30 years. She retired from Younkers and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Order of the Eastern Star, PEO and the Dallas County School Board.

Among survivors are two sons, Fredrick and Wayne, both of Scottsdale, Ariz.; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Friends may call one hour prior to services at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Acres Good Samaritan endowment fund.

3-17-95

NEIGHBORS OF THE WEEK



ED KINTZER/REGISTER CORRESPONDENT

The Carney family believes you get back a lot more than you give to people. Clockwise from top left are Dennis, Sally, Alissa and Josh.

Couple true example of good neighbors ^{3/15/95}

Sally and Dennis Carney watch houses, clear snowy sidewalks and do much more.

By ED KINTZER

REGISTER CORRESPONDENT

Kim Sova and her husband, Gary Huffman, are surprised their neighbors, Sally and Dennis Carney, have never been nominated as Neighbors of the Week.

They are wonderful, Sova and Huffman said. Theirs is a friendly place for neighbors and kids to drop in.

"They have been here the whole time we have lived here (nine years)," Sova said. "And we have gotten to know them better each year. They keep an eye out for the neighborhood, and now with winter they are blowing snow off sidewalks. They assist in the neighborhood and are concerned about the integrity of the neighborhood."

The Carneys have lived in Des Moines 20 years and at 1435 41st St. since 1981.

"We have nice neighbors," said Sally Carney, 45. "We all help each other. It is a wonderful neighborhood. We are all supportive; if you need help with the kids or want to borrow something, or if Kim is baking brownies or cookies and sees our lights on, she brings some over. It is that kind of a neighborhood."

She admitted, "Yes, we do watch neighbors' houses when they are on vacation, water plants, feed cats, take in the mail and the papers."

"We do not have a philosophy," said Dennis Carney, 48. "It is just one of those things. You get back a lot more than you give."

"We both can't say 'no' when asked to do something. Some things

would not get done without volunteers. You need to help out."

The couple has volunteered every year their children have gone to King and Perkins schools. This year Sally is the fund-raising chairwoman with the Parent-Teacher Association, and Dennis is treasurer and a former PTA president.

Their daughter, Alissa, 10, is in the fifth grade and son, Josh, 9, is in the fourth grade, both at Perkins. Alissa arrived here from Korea at the age of 5½ months and Josh was 2½ years old when he came from Thailand.

For five years, Sally has been a volunteer with Holt International Children's Services. She is head greeter here for the adoption agency.

"I deliver babies. It is very gratifying to hand babies over to waiting families. It is a wonderful experience," she said. "I must be at the airport to get the right baby to the right adoptive parents. They are mainly infants, 3 to 6 months old."

Sally is president of the Holt Iowa Auxiliary, and Dennis is treasurer. One of the founders, Bertha Holt, is a graduate of Des Moines East High School.

At Plymouth Congregational Church, both are on the Family Life Committee, and Dennis is in his first year as a member of the Board of Trustees. Once a month, he takes his turn driving the church bus, picking up members at retirement homes and apartment buildings.

Both are graduates of Ida Grove High School, Dennis graduated in 1965, and the former Sally Hutchinson graduated in 1967. He is a 1970 accounting graduate of Morningside College in Sioux City. She attended the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

Dennis has been with Midwest Mutual Insurance Co., 1111 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, for 20 years. He is treasurer of the firm.

2-26-95
Jean Mary Wolf Mountain, 80, of 3801 Grand Ave. died of cancer Friday at home. Services will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church. The body has been cremated; burial of the remains will be at Resthaven Mausoleum.

Mrs. Mountain was a lifelong resident of Des Moines. She was a homemaker and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, Proteus Study Club, and Junior League.

Survivors include a son, Bruce of New Virginia; two daughters, Jean Kneller of Des Moines and Mary Kruse of Iowa City; and six grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central Iowa or her church. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

2/22/95 2930
Martha H. Hughes, 79, of 2930 Sioux Court died of cancer Sunday at Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen, Texas. Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Plymouth United Church of Christ, of which she was a member.

Mrs. Hughes was born in Des Moines and had lived here most of her life, wintering in Texas the past 10 years. She was a member of the Polk County Medical Auxiliary and the American Medical Association Auxiliary.

Survivors include her husband, Parker; two daughters, Judith Miller of Des Moines and Mary Chamberlain of Paola, Kan.; two sisters, Elizabeth Albert of Decatur, Ala., and Maureen Blanck of San Diego, Calif.; and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Des Moines YMCA Camp. Arrangements are being handled by Buck Ashcraft Funeral Home in Harlingen.

NEIGHBOR OF THE WEEK

Eleanor Noel says she receives a lot from her volunteer work

Lifelong volunteer Eleanor Noel is appreciated by the people at Wesley Methodist Adult Day Center.

By ED KINTZER

REGISTER CORRESPONDENT

Eleanor Noel strongly believes that everyone she meets contributes to her life.

But it's her contributions toward others that have people singing her praises. Senior citizens at Wesley Methodist Adult Day Center say she "always has that extra touch that makes things special." Another added how much people there appreciate how pleasant and caring she is.

"I have been doing volunteer work all my life, even in high school and all the years I was working," said Noel, 77. "I always say the more you give of yourself, the more you gain. I love people."

"Making a difference is a common theme for the volunteers here," said Becky Groff, director of the center at Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave. "New friendships and fun are just two of the reasons volunteers are so dedicated to our program. We are privileged to have Eleanor as a volunteer."

Noel of 1155 20th Place, West Des Moines, also volunteers at Fountain West Health Center Care Review Committee and serves on the boards at Plymouth Place, Crestview Acres and Des Moines Women's Club. At Plymouth Congregational Church she is on the church council and serves on other committees.

Noel's husband, Raymond, is a retired sales manager of Firestone Industrial Products. He was with the subsidiary of the old Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. 41 years. He is a volunteer at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

They have two daughters, Michele Harkleroad, Lawson, Mo., and Linda Mustacci, Rhinelander, Wis., and two grandsons. They have been married 55 years and have lived at their present address 26 years.

The former Eleanor Scatterday is a 1935 graduate of Buchtel High School in Akron, Ohio, and a 1940 graduate of the University of Akron, majoring in sociology and psychology.

"I've been nicknamed 'Scatter' all my life," she said chuckling. "Some places do not know I have the name Eleanor."

Except for the 1960s when the Noels lived in Indianapolis, the couple has lived in the Des Moines area since 1952.



Eleanor Noel has been doing volunteer work all her life.

In Indianapolis she was a social worker with the Children's Bureau of Indianapolis, working with the placement and supervision of children in foster and adoptive homes. In Des Moines, she was supervisor with Home Health Aides at the in-home care and meals-on-wheels agency now known as Generations Inc. She retired in 1989 after 20 years of service.

Cover
story

Rendezvous with romance

NEED IDEAS FOR A ROMANTIC DATE ON
VALENTINE'S DAY? CENTRAL IOWANS SHARE
THEIR DREAM DATES.

By KATHY BERDAN
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Romance comes in many hues in central Iowa. For some, it involves frills and flowers. For others, limos and luxury. And for some, it's a baseball game at Sec Taylor, a pizza or simply a night away from phones and doorbells.

With Valentine's Day 1995 just a heartbeat away on Tuesday, we asked people for their ideas for the most romantic date they could go on in central Iowa. That was the only limitation: The date had to stay in central Iowa. Otherwise, the sky's the limit.

KGGO radio's morning DJ team, **Lou and Larry**, took to the skies for part of their dream date. The romantic evening they came up with would start with dinner at the Embassy Club atop 801 Grand, overlooking the city lights. "Tell 'em you're David Hurd (retired chairman and chief executive of The Principal Financial Group) and you'll get in," Lou suggests. After dinner, a limo would take you to an "undisclosed location" where a hot air balloon awaits. "You lift off, gracefully floating over Saylorville reservoir with the moon beaming across the midnight sky. You present your Valentine with a gift of imported Swiss chocolate fashioned to form a perfect, singular rose." That, say the two, is the perfect Valentine's date. ... "Either that or go eat Mexican at Raul's and catch a flick at the 1536," Lou says, apparently able to be serious for only so long.

Jeff Taylor, one of the J.T.s in J.T.'s Fine Wine and Spirits in West Des Moines, would start by sending roses to his wife, Terry. "After work I'd pick her up in a limo and we'd open a bottle of champagne," Taylor says. Of course, he has suggestions for the champagne: either an '82 Krug Clos Du Mesnil or an '85 Veuve Clicquot La Grande Dame. The limo would take the Taylors to a suite at the Strawtown Inn in Pella. There, they'd have dinner by candlelight in the room and perhaps watch an old movie such as "Casablanca."

The Strawtown Inn was also the romantic date destination for **Tim Reilly**, who owns the Chocolate Storybook with his wife, Liesel. (Who better to ask for a sweet date idea than the owners of a shop that specializes in chocolate?) "It's really like getting away" but it's not too far away, Reilly says. He praised the food at the Inn and says Pella is a nice, quiet town. He'd bring a single rose and a small box of chocolates (of course) to add a bit more romance to the night.

A limo is the preferred romantic mode of travel for **Joseph Giunta**, maestro of the

Des Moines Symphony. On his dream Valentine's Day date, he and his wife, Cindy, would take a limo to the Metz for a "romantic, quiet dinner." He recommends the slow movement from Rachmaninoff's Second Symphony for romantic dinner music. After the meal, it's across the street to the Des Moines Civic Center where Giunta is conducting the Valentine's Day Pops Concert. 2/9/95

The Rev. David Ruhe of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ won't be able to go on his ideal date Tuesday. He'll have to wait for spring, because a dream date for him and physician wife Priscilla "would definitely have to include a baseball game." Since it's difficult to find their favorite — French food — in Des Moines, they'd likely dine at "Chez Sec Taylor," Ruhe says. (Make sure to use the Grey Poupon on your hot dog.) After the game, they'd spend a night in a suite at the top of a downtown hotel (like the time Plymouth parishioners sent them on a getaway to the Hotel Fort Des Moines) "and look out over the city."

At this time of year, Drake women's basketball coach **Lisa Bluder** likes nothing better than to stay home with her husband, Dave, if she gets the chance. But when it comes time for a night on the town, Bluder likes the Des Moines Club for a dream date. "I love the view, that's really neat from up there at night. Since I don't belong to the club, it really is a dream, then."

The term "dream date" takes Fox 17's **Steve Berry** into a fantasy spin back in time. His date venues exist in history only. Berry, the "movie guy" on KDSM-TV, would start his ideal date with "a few quick games of pool at the Corner Pocket in Dogtown, then down to Great Plains Saloon for some serious shuffleboard. Next up: live music at So's Your Mother and then pizza at Bamie's on Army Post Road. Then it's across the street to Johnny and Kay's Hyatt House — and the rest, as they say, is history."

Lisa Deaton and her partner, Leslie Gearhart, would start their romantic night with dinner at Aunt Butch's Bistro in Sherman Hill. "I love it there," says Deaton, who works for Business Publications. After dinner, a night at the Savery. It's like getting away for the weekend without a lot of travel time, she says. "And one of the best things is you're away from the phone and the doorbell." She'd also throw in a new outfit for the evening.

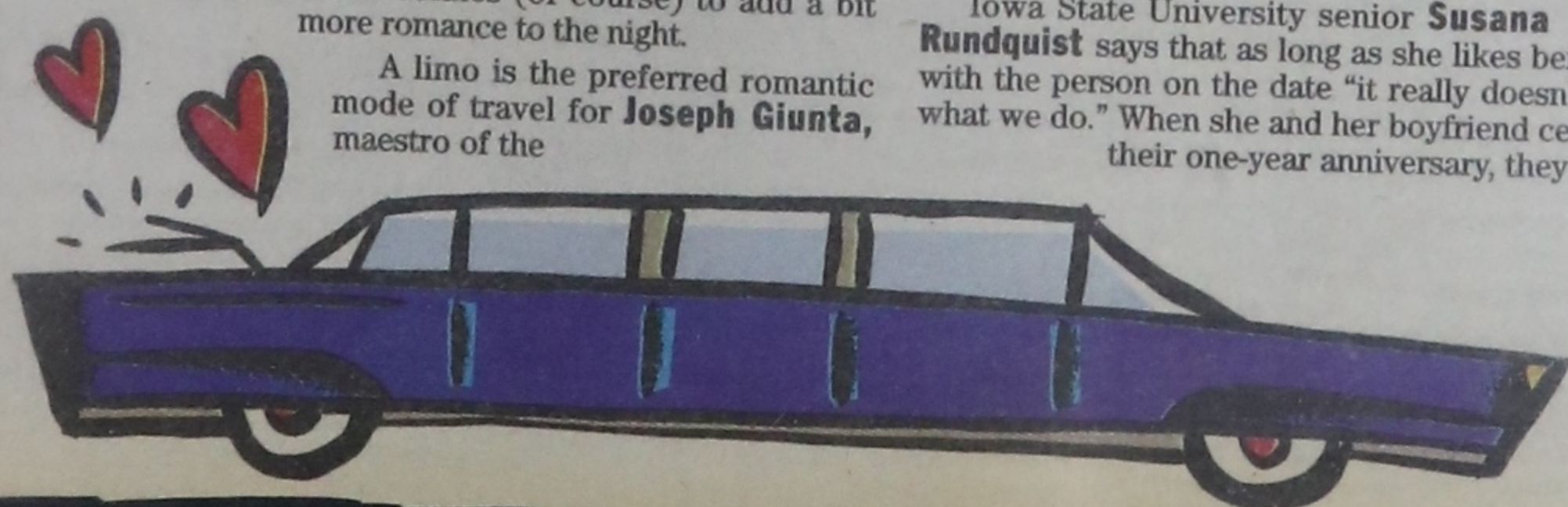
Iowa State University senior **Susana Rundquist** says that as long as she likes being with the person on the date "it really doesn't matter what we do." When she and her boyfriend celebrated their one-year anniversary, they went on

a romantic date that included roses and dinner. He gave her a diamond necklace during dinner and they went out dancing. That was romantic for Rundquist. "I love to dance," she says.

Longtime Des Moines musician **Irene Myles** can't help but put in a plug for her employer — and herself. "If I were looking for a romantic date, I'd go to the Gotham Club for dinner and then listen to Irene Myles," she says with a laugh. If Myles herself were to go on a romantic date, she'd like to go with someone who has a membership at the Des Moines Club so she could look out over the city while she's having dinner. And she'd want to get there by limo.

Myles has seen her share of romancing couples during her years singing for Des Moines audiences. The most requested romantic song this time of year or any other? "My Funny Valentine," she says.

STAFF WRITER Jane Burns contributed to this story.



MARK MARTURELLO/THE REGISTER

■ **Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ**, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., will hold receptions at 8 a.m. and noon Sunday in Waveland Hall for the retirement of the Rev. Alden Hebard as minister of membership.

2-9-95

Katherine Q. Smith, 85, of Norwalk died of a heart ailment Tuesday at Regency Care Center. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Resthaven Cemetery, and a memorial service will be at a later date.

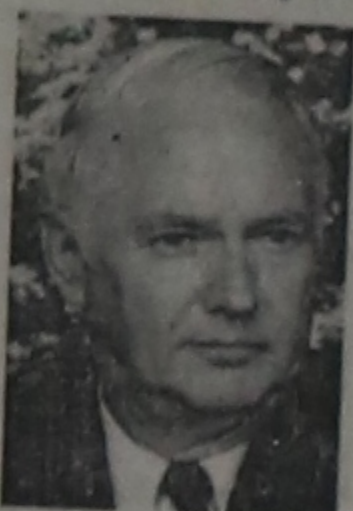
Mrs. Smith, a homemaker, was born in Marshalltown and lived in Des Moines most of her life. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and PEO chapter KO.

Surviving are a son, Thomas of Malvern, Pa.; a brother, Edward Qualen of Clairmont, Calif.; and a grandchild.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Arthritis Foundation.

2/9/95

Richard C. Schuling, 65, of 6730 N.E. 56th St., Altoona, died Tuesday at Mercy Hospital Medical Center of a cerebral hemorrhage following surgery. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, and burial will be in Glendale Cemetery.



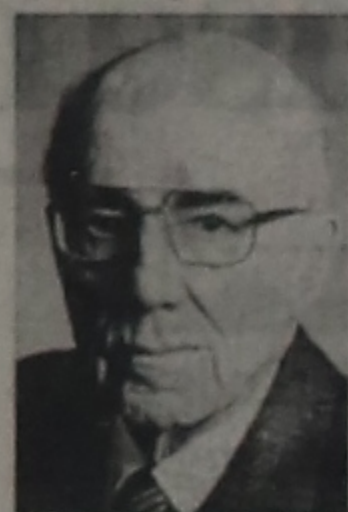
Mr. Schuling was born in Des Moines and moved to Altoona in 1969 after serving in the Air Force 20 years. He was the co-owner of Country Living Mobile Home Park and had been a member of Iowa Manufactured Housing Association, King David Lodge, Altoona Chamber of Commerce, Za-Ga-Zig Shrine, Friendship Force of Greater Des Moines, Altoona American Legion and Council for International Understanding.

He is survived by his wife, Doraine; three sons, Jeffrey of Altoona, Mark of Des Moines and Chris of Bondurant; a brother, Ralph of Des Moines; three sisters, Virginia Anderson-Tesdell of Altoona, Alene Koontz of Council Bluffs and Sharon Orlins of Muscatine; and eight grandchildren.

Friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. today at Hamilton's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Door of Faith Mission or Hospice of Central Iowa.

2/3/95

J. Stuart Kirk, 91, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of a respiratory ailment there Wednesday. Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at Resthaven Cemetery in West Des Moines.



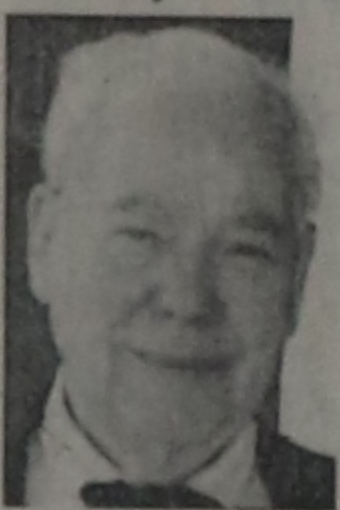
Mr. Kirk was born in Lester Prairie, Minn., and had lived in Des Moines 52 years. He was a retired secretary/treasurer with Younkers and was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church.

Survivors include a son, John of West Des Moines; two brothers, Percy of Sheridan, Wyo., and William of Columbus, Ga.; and two grandchildren.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. today at the funeral home, where the family will be present from 5 to 6 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Living History Farms.

2/16/95

Charles E. Elmquist, 86, of 310 Foster Drive died of a heart ailment Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Osage Cemetery.



Mr. Elmquist was a former FBI agent and retired as owner of Iowa Casket Co. He lived in Des Moines all his life and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

He is survived by a daughter, Marion, and a son, Charles, both of Des Moines; two brothers, Harry of Glendale, Calif., and Homer of Sun City, Calif.; and a grandchild.

The family will visit with friends from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday at Hamilton's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Drake University.

2/2/95

Fred McConnell Albright, 50, of 4924 West Park Drive, West Des Moines, died of a lung ailment Tuesday at Mercy Hospital Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at McLaren's Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mr. Albright was born in Los Angeles and had lived in the Des Moines and West Des Moines areas since the 1950s. He had worked for IBM in Los Angeles and retired as president of Demco in West Des Moines and was former co-owner of Wall Street Restaurant. He was a veteran of the Korean War and a member of Gnemeth Masonic Lodge, Za-Ga-Zig Shrine, Izaak Walton League and Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ. He also was past president of the National Packaged Concrete Manufacturers Association.

Among survivors are his wife, Norma; two daughters, Karen Stiles of Oakland, Calif., and Nancy Albright of West Des Moines; two stepdaughters, Michelle Scaglione of Des Moines and Melissa Rarick of Ankeny; three stepsons, Frankie Scaglione, Victor Scaglione and Anthony Scaglione, all of Des Moines; his stepmother, Evelyn Kolbeins of Canada; and two grandchildren.

Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to Shriner's Burn Center for Children or Variety Club.

1-4-95

Katharine C. Woodburn, 99, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of pneumonia there Tuesday. The body was cremated and services will be at a later date, with burial in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mrs. Woodburn was born in Washington, D.C., and moved to Des Moines in 1918. She was a homemaker and member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Surviving are three sons, F. Coville of Ormond Beach, Fla., Chester of Des Moines and Scottsdale, Ariz.; and Boynton of Waukee; 12 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Acres Good Samaritan fund. Arrangements were handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

Clergy seen helping ease controversy

By MICHAEL McNARNEY

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Some of the most vocal players in the controversy over teaching about homosexuality in Des Moines schools support the role area pastors have played in the recommendation to drop the proposal.

"This is a unique case where these clergy were able to contribute," said Gay and Lesbian Resource Center President Bill Crews. "The clergy committee helped. I think the committee recognized there is a lot more in common than different (between people)."

Des Moines schools Superintendent Gary Wegenke had convened a committee of 12 area pastors to recommend to him what should be done with the proposal. They recommended it be dropped.

Randall Wilson, legal director for the Iowa Civil Liberties Union, said he didn't see any problem with the committee as long as it didn't begin to formulate policy rather than merely make recommendations.

"The committee is not involved in ongoing action to run the school district," he said. "Although the doctrine

of separation of church and state requires public schools to keep their affairs separate from the practice of religion, the two can't exist in total ignorance of each other."

Wegenke said the circumstances surrounding the proposal were unusual, and it seemed appropriate that the pastors counsel be sought since they already were playing such a large role.

The superintendent said he understands the group wants to continue to work together on issues of community concern.

The Rev. Gary Ruhe of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ said the church has historically played a role in public schools.

"In general, it's probably a good thing when people take an interest in public schools, period," he said. "What got me most involved in this ... was the atmosphere that the debate was being engaged in."

Ruhe said Wegenke made clear from the outset that the committee's role was not to make policy but to make a recommendation. "He's got his own mind," said Ruhe, "and made that very clear to us."

The 12-member committee released its recommendation Jan. 19 after 17 hours of discussion.

More ministers back proposal

Nine more Des Moines-area clergy have added their names to an open letter to the Des Moines school board expressing support as district officials decide whether to teach about homosexuality in the classroom.

The letter has now been signed by 30 clergy. It was drawn up Monday in response to concerns raised about a proposal to teach students in all grade levels about homosexuality.

"We believe that homosexuality should neither be promoted nor condemned in schools," says a paragraph of the one-page letter, "however, it also shouldn't be ignored. To the extent that homosexuality is a factor in people's lives, in history, in the arts, in politics and in relationships, it should be presented realistically and honestly as part of the way the world is."

The letter does not endorse specifics of the proposal. And religious leaders who signed it said they were speaking for themselves and not their congregations or denominations.

Those signing the letter are:

Stuart Broberg, Rev. Karen Chakorian, Rev. David Clark, Rev. Carl Cooper, Rev. Bob Crandell, Eloise Cranke, Rev. Gil Dawes, Rev. Dei Dawes, Rev. Tim Diebel, Rev. Bud Dunshee, Pastor Len Eberhart, Rev. Don Elly, Rev. Faith Ferre, Rev. Sue Gallagher, Pastor Andrew Gangle, Rev. Chester Guinn, Rev. Carlos Jayne, Rev. Jim Leshner, Rev. David Madsen, Rev. Dennis Mullin, Rev. Sara Nally, Rev. Jim Nelson, Rev. Thea Nietfeld, Pastor Jim Pemble, Rev. Mary Pope, David Ruhe, Rabbi Neil Sandler, Pastor Sharon Sloat, Rev. Hugh Stone and Rev. Dale Strong.

Ruth Brackney, 94, of 2502 High St. died of a heart ailment Friday at Sunnyview Nursing Home. Services will be at 3 p.m. Monday at Clemons United Church of Christ, with burial at Clemons Cemetery.

Miss Brackney was born in Clemons and had lived in Des Moines 30 years. She was a retired home teacher for the Iowa Department for the Blind. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, National Federation of the Blind, Marshall Rebekah Lodge and Order of Eastern Star.

Nieces and nephews survive. Friends may call after noon today at Estel-Perrin-Avey Funeral Home in Marshalltown.

Dorothy I. Adams, 94, of Luther Park Health Care Center, 1555 Hull Ave., died of a heart ailment there Friday. Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mrs. Adams was born in Corning and lived in Des Moines most of her life. She retired from the U.S. Selective Service agency and was a member of Des Moines Women's Club and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Among survivors are three sons, Thomas of Minnetonka, Minn., and John and Dick, both of Des Moines; a daughter, Elizabeth Ann Wires of Robbinsdale, Minn.; 11 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

The family will greet friends from noon until service time Monday at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to Plymouth Congregational Church Foundation. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

SNAPSHOT



Now a social worker, former businesswoman Mary Riche has an extensive library — but she buys hard-bound books by women authors only.

BOB MODERSOHN/THE REGISTER

A Riche, fulfilling life

1-10-95

Former PR entrepreneur builds counseling practice

To much of the Des Moines community, Mary Riche would be recognized as a long-time public relations entrepreneur and a staunch supporter of women's rights. Since 1988, though, she has also been the wife of Stephen Spade, general manager of the Des Moines Metropolitan Transit Authority, and ready-made parent to his sons, Mike and Sam Spade.

Now she has embarked on a new mission. She returned to college, earned a master's degree in social work and is eagerly building a practice in family counseling.

Born in Oelwein, Riche was a tomboy farm girl who set off to the University of Iowa on a Hearst journalism scholarship. Although her initial goal was to replace newswoman Barbara Walters someday, her business career has instead included stints as project analyst for Continental Can Company in Chicago and developer of in-house advertising at Adventureland in Altoona. She founded her own business, Riche & Associates public relations firm, in 1980.

Along the way, Riche served as a press aide for Sen. Adlai Stevenson III in Washington, D.C.; press secretary for Jim Schaben, 1974 Iowa Democratic gubernatorial candidate; and was a Democratic party researcher in the Iowa Senate.

Also, she worked for the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, a job she calls "one of the most significant work experiences I have ever had."

She is active in the Iowa Women's Political Caucus and proudly acknowledges that her financial contributions first go to women who support abortion rights.

A. I'm 46.

Q. Oh, you want the tough question first?

A. Actually, I've never been one who's found that tough.

Q. How did you meet this man you're so crazy about?

A. Steve and I met on a Chamber of Commerce trip in Washington, D.C., in 1985. The most significant moment in my life was when we met in a revolving door on that trip. I got goose bumps remembering pushing that door and seeing that guy. He still has the same effect on me.

Q. Did he have something to do with your decision to change careers?

A. It was a calling I answered. It had a lot to do with finally having a personal life that was fulfilling, a need to derive personal satisfaction from my work, and a recognition that profit is not a satisfying motive for me professionally.

Q. Did you know that through the years, or was it a result of your personal life?

A. Combination. My business was going well, and suddenly I met this man. I honestly didn't think I was going to meet someone I wanted to spend my life with. When I suddenly had a family that offered joy, I discovered that some of the professional satisfaction was really pretty hollow and empty. I shut down my full-fledged company in 1990, joined Palmer Communications and remained a consultant for five or six other companies. Then Palmer moved its corporate headquarters the next year.

Q. Do you have a certain area of counseling expertise?

A. Infertility and blended families. I was interested in those topics, of course, because of my own experience.

Q. You dealt with infertility yourself?

A. Yes. Infertility has taught me a great deal about myself, but there is still a lot yet to be revealed. There may be a purpose for my infertility.

Q. Do you feel you are less of a female because you haven't given birth to a child?

A. Well, I can tell you I couldn't love Steve's children any more if I had given birth to them, but I do think society places a great deal of value on the role of parents, and an unequal emphasis on the mothering.

Q. Why didn't you adopt?

A. We considered that. I had to get through my own guilt that I had intentionally delayed parenting. It made good sense until I met Steve. I love kids, but having one myself had not been a priority. For Steve and me, it was very complicated. Now I can tell you that spiritually I am a servant. I am not in control.

Q. Is it correct that you're a musician?

A. I grew up playing the piano. I accompany a choir at Plymouth Congregational Church. I play alto saxophone. In high school, I played the oboe. Music is just part of my soul.

Q. What kind of music do you listen to?

A. I have guitar and piano that I play at the

office. At home, I like women artists. I also have an incredible library. Three years ago I set the standard that I would buy hard-bound books only by women.

Q. Will you read books by men?

A. Yes, but I have to go to the library, or I will buy paperbacks by men. I do make exceptions for professional books, and I'll accept gifts.

Q. What else do you do for fun?

A. I have a large perennial flower garden. Wellness and fitness are very important. I work out six days a week. And cooking — good, low-fat, complex carbohydrates. We also love to go to a lot of movies.

Q. What are your goals?

A. To just continue to do good therapy and enjoy the reality that I'm doing this. Three years ago, this was a dream. Now I'm doing it. I have one more career left, by the way.

Q. What is that?

A. I don't know, but it will happen — probably when I'm 65. I just know that there is one more career that I will have. In many ways I've come full circle. I started out as this social activist. Then I went into business, then politics. Then I was an entrepreneur. Now I'm a social worker, but one who understands the system, the institution and the resources so I can be a funnel, and information can flow through me to clients who can empower themselves.

—Jane Schorer Meisner

1-10-95

12/12/95

*"We never get over the loss of a loved one.
But we learn to cope and we can share
our true feelings with each other."*

— Keith Bailey of Ames, whose daughter, Kim Bailey, was killed by a drunken driver



Janet Tracy of Norwalk was the last to leave the "Candlelight Vigil of Remembrance and Hope" at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ on Monday night. Her husband was killed by a drunken driver in 1988, leaving her with their four children.

DOUG WELLS/REGISTER PHOTOS

Each candle burns with hope

A vigil is held to remember those who died due to the actions of drunken drivers.

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

It was an evening of contrasting emotions of the season.

A huge banner above the altar proclaimed "Joy to the World" — part of the Christmas display at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

A moving service Monday night brought tears and was not a scene of unalloyed joy. But the 12th annual Christmas season "Candlelight Vigil of Remembrance and Hope" sponsored by the Polk County chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving contained messages of hope and expressions of gratitude for progress in the fight against drunken driving.

"At my first MADD meeting nine years ago, they told me that it does get better," said Keith Bailey of Ames, whose daughter, Kim Bailey, was killed by a drunken driver. "We never get over the loss of a loved one. But we learn to cope and we can share our true feelings with each other."

Bailey shared a poem about Christmas hope with the 115 people at the vigil. It said, in part:

It is the hope that someday the pain of the death of our loved ones will be eased. The hope is that someday our smiles will be real. The hope is that once again we will laugh and cry completely without fear or hollowness.

Jeff and Glennis Brawner of Colfax told of the bitter irony in the 1990 death of their son, Tracy, at



Krista Hodson of Norwalk lights a candle while her mother, Jeri, left, looks on. Krista Hodson's aunt and cousin were killed by a drunken driver in 1988. Her younger brother was also killed in an accident where alcohol was involved. Behind them on the right, Jim Sullivan embraces his sister, Patty Combs. Their sister, Tammy Combs, was killed by a drunken driver.

age 31. They told how their son, a non-drinker, had driven an intoxicated person to his home in Newton one night in 1990. Driving back to Colfax, he was killed in a head-on crash in which the other driver was drunk.

"I don't know how we would have gotten through this if it had not been for MADD," Jeff Brawner said.

Krista Hodson of Norwalk has attended the annual vigils since 1986

when her aunt, Judy McBee, and cousin, Cindy McBee, were killed by a drunken driver. She now lights three candles at the annual vigil. Her younger brother was killed in a 1992 accident in which the other driver had been drinking.

A poem Hodson shared at the vigil ended with these lines:

*One life for every candle.
Those that have lost and those who care will never forget.*

One by one, friends and relatives lighted candles for those killed by the scourge of drinking drivers. There were tears and supportive hugs.

The church lights were turned out as the bank of candles became the focal point. A time of silence "for those who are not here but are not forgotten" was called for. And a song about it being better to light a candle than to curse the darkness was sung.

Nov. '95

JOIN WITH US IN DES MOINES' TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE 10:00 A.M.

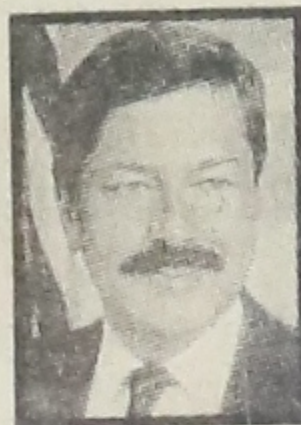


Remember the first Thanksgiving at our traditional Pilgrim Service.
Join families clad in Pilgrim garb in giving thanks.

STATE THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION GOVERNOR TERRY BRANSTAD

SERMON: "An Errand To The Wilderness"
David Ruhe, Senior Minister

OFFERING FOR
The Homeless of Des Moines Through
the Plymouth Homeless Assistance Team



Plymouth Congregational UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

4126 Ingersoll (Just 2 blocks South of 42nd St. Freeway Exit)
Child care for pre-kindergarten

Pageants and programs as Advent season begins

12-2-95

Sunday marks the start of the four-week season of Advent, a time of spiritual preparation for Christmas.

Some churches observe the 12 days of Christmas, starting on Dec. 25. Others present a variety of Christmas concerts, plays, pageants, children's programs and other Christmas celebrations throughout Advent. Here is a list of some of the activities for next week:

• **First Assembly of God**, 2725 Merle Hay Road — "A Christmas Festival 1995" with Sanctuary Choir, orchestra, hand-bells and children's choirs, 7 p.m. Dec. 9 and 6 p.m. Dec. 10.

• **First Baptist Church**, Marshalltown — The Chancel Choir presents the living Christmas tree cantata "Canticle of Christmas," 7 p.m. Friday; 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9; and 4 p.m. Dec. 10. A dessert social follows Friday's performance; cost is \$2. Dinner follows the Dec. 9 show; cost is \$6.

• **First Church of the Nazarene**, Oskaloosa — The King's Kids present the Christmas musical "Shine, Jesus Shine," 6 p.m. Sunday.

• **First United Methodist Church**, Perry — Perry Community Chorus performs at 3 p.m. Sunday. Program includes soloists, hand bells and small group selections.

• **Highland Park Lutheran Church**, 147 E. Euclid Ave. — The first of a four-part drama, "The Light of Advent," 10 a.m. Sunday. The drama, written by the Rev. Curt Joseph, continues each week through Dec. 24. An Advent soup supper is served at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, followed by an informal worship service. Meal costs are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12.

• **Hoyt Sherman Place**, 15th Street and Woodland Avenue — "The Gift of Christmas" featuring the Rejection Slip Players, Des Moines Community Choir, Des Moines Community Singers and an instrumental ensemble, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9 and 2 p.m. Dec. 10. Cost is \$5 and tickets are available through Ticketmaster, 243-1888.

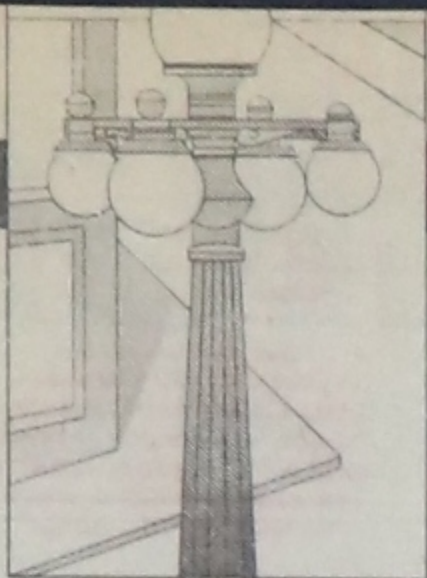
• **Mount Olive Lutheran Church**, 5625 Franklin Ave. — Advent service, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

• **Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ**, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. — Christmas oratorio "Saint Nicolas" with Adel native Theodore Green, a student at New England Conservatory in Boston, singing the title role; 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9 and 3 p.m. Dec. 10. Cost is \$12 for advanced seating and \$8 for general seating, with a \$30 family maximum. Call 255-3149.

• **Rising Sun Church of Christ**, 6390 Rising Sun Drive — A musical comedy "I'll Be Home for Christmas," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8 and Dec. 9. The Friday performance includes a dessert buffet for \$6. Admission is free for the other performances.

• **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**, 5720 Urbandale Ave. — Advent breakfast, 9 a.m. Sunday sponsored by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's. Costs are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12.

• **West Des Moines United Methodist Church**, 720 Grand Ave. — "The Reason for the Season" program, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday. There will be crafts for all ages, Christmas cards for college students, cookie decorating, a discussion with the pastor, caroling and a soup supper served by the church youth.



MEET ME ON THE CORNER

WINDOWS TO THE PAST AND PRESENT IN DES MOINES

11-8-95

42nd and Ingersoll



REGISTER FILE PHOTO

King-Croft, a large, white, colonial home, became a Des Moines landmark.

An aptitude for architectural design led Mary Louise King to draw the plans for King-Croft, the large white colonial home that graced the northeast corner of 42nd Street and Ingersoll Avenue for 60 years, becoming a Des Moines landmark, top photo.

Mary Louise was considered a belle in early Des Moines days. She was the daughter of J.R. Barcroft and Susan Fletcher Ankeny Barcroft, early Des Moines pioneers. In 1878 she married George E. King, a prominent bridge builder. While other ladies knitted or supervised household staff, Mary Louise liked to draw house plans. She designed their first home on Pleasant Street across from what is now Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

She was just warming up, however, for the design of the Ingersoll Avenue home that featured four sweeping Ionic columns at the front of the 20-room mansion. The home had seven bedrooms, and many of the rooms had fireplaces. A third-floor ballroom was included in her plans, along with a nearby billiard room. The ballroom was the scene of many glittering dances in the early 1900s.

The home was situated on three acres. After it was built, a transformation took place, turning a former cornfield into a beautifully landscaped lawn.

In planning the landscaping, King refused to follow the fashion of the day in planting trees in a uniform pattern. Instead, the story goes, she threw seeds to

the wind and planted the trees — pine, spruce, elm, oak, juniper and fir — where the seeds landed.

Behind the home was a stable, which was later combined with a garage. Along with the Marmon and Franklin cars, the stable-garage housed a mule that was used for cutting grass and removing snow from the walks and curving drive. Over the stable-garage were servants' quarters.

George King died several years before his wife. She continued to reside in the home she designed, living with her daughter and son-in-law, W.W. and Edith Pearson. W.W. Pearson, a dean of the Drake University Medical School from 1909 to 1912 and a well-known physician, died in 1944. His mother-in-law died two years later at the age of 91. In her last days she said she wanted to plan another house, a smaller one than King-Croft.

Edith King Pearson continued to live in the old home until her death at the age of 84 in 1963.

Shortly after her death, the family home on the three-acre tract between 41st and 42nd streets was sold to Plymouth Congregational Church, and the grand home was later torn down.

Today, the corner is occupied by Plymouth Place, a retirement home that was built in 1968. It stands on the same spot as King-Croft, sparing most of the trees that Mary Louise King planted long ago.

— Linda Banger



Plymouth Place, a retirement home built in 1968.

LINDA BANGER/THE REGISTER

BROADWAY AUDITIONS

Children's choirs find today if they made t

Two groups will perform in 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.'

By JIM POLLOCK

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

One difference between a theater audition for adults and a theater audition for children is that the adults usually don't ask the stage manager what happens if they faint. Or get sick. Or just generally "mess up."

You won't faint and you won't get sick, the pros from the coasts said Tuesday at the Civic Center, somehow leaving out the word "probably." And "when you mess up, you just keep smiling and the audience will never know," said Lynda Lavin of Los Angeles.

Lavin and two theater veterans from New York came to town looking for children's choirs to appear here with a touring company of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Eight Des Moines-area choirs showed up. Two were selected, but they weren't disclosed.

In the show business spirit that

says you always leave them laughing, the talent scouts let all 160 kids go home thinking they might be back on that stage in late November.

"We want to leave them with an up feeling," said Lavin, 42, of The Really Useful Management Company. Reality arrives today.

Participants in "The Dreamcoat Choir Challenge" came from Edmunds Academy, St. Augustin's School, Plymouth Congregational Church, Studebaker Elementary School and two apiece from the Des Moines Children's Chorus and Southeast Polk Junior High. Ages ranged from 9 to 14.

They sang and danced one choir at a time, two choirs at a time and en masse, urged on in their singing by actor Chuck Muckle, 40, and led in dancing by director and choreographer Carl Schmehl, 35.

Lavin, Muckle and Schmehl did the same thing in Omaha on Monday, and are scheduled to hit Nashville and Kansas City before the week is done.

"It gives kids a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to appear in a touring Broadway show," Muckle said.

"After a one-week run, some kids are crying and saying, 'Can you take us on to the next city?'"

Plus, it helps the show sell tickets to assorted relatives and friends of the 40 kids who take to the stage.

The chosen choirs will spend the next few weeks rehearsing "Dreamcoat" music with their local directors, and then they will spend an intense week with people from the touring company. The schools or organizations get \$50 per child per week in return.

But only one youngster was sensible enough to ask about paychecks during the question-and-answer session with Lavin.

What the kids really wanted to know were things like:

Will we get to meet the actors? Well, yes, you'll be working with them in rehearsals, you know.

Will we get to watch the show? Well, no, you'll be on the stage, in the show.

What if you have braces; is that a problem? "We want kids, and kids have braces," Lavin said. "Don't worry about it. That's who you are."

5/10/95
Louise H. Johnson, 85, of 4131 North Union died of a heart ailment Monday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Dahlstrom Funeral Home. Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Johnson, who retired as a secretary in U.S. Bankruptcy Court, was born in Blakesburg and moved to Des Moines in 1927. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. She was past president of the National Secretary Association.

Among survivors are three stepsons, Dick Engstrom of Lake Placid, Fla., Jack Engstrom of Tampa, Fla., and Keith Engstrom of Des Moines; 14 step-grandchildren; and 11 step-great-grandchildren.

Friends may call from noon to 7 p.m. today at the funeral home, where the family will greet friends from 4 to 7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to her church, Blank Children's Hospital Guild or Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

Richard Allen Westcott dies of cancer at age 65

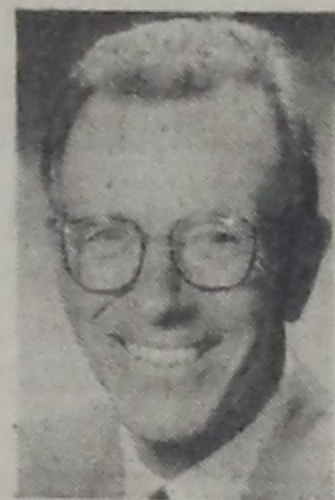
By **RAINBOW ROWELL**
 REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Richard Allen Westcott, a prominent Des Moines businessman who was active in the community, died of cancer Wednesday at home.

The body was cremated and memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member.

Mr. Westcott, 65, of 2910 Cayuga Point was born in Ericson, Neb., and also lived in Illinois before moving to Des Moines 19 years ago.

He was the founder and senior managing director of Investors Management Group and had served on the boards of the Science Center of Des Moines and the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center.



Westcott
Businessman

Mr. Westcott came to Des Moines as the head of Mid-continent Industries, a bottler and distributor of national soft drinks. When Mid-Continent merged with Universal Foods Corp. of Milwaukee, Mr. Westcott headed that company's beverage group.

In 1981, he was elected chairman of the board of the Financial Services Group of Hawkeye Bancorporation, an Iowa-based bank holding company with Des Moines headquarters. He left that company to form Investors Management Group in 1982.

Gov. Terry Branstad appointed him to the Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission last year.

Surviving are his wife, Janet; two sons, Mark of Lake Forest, Ill., and Steven of Denver, Colo.; a daughter, Anne Westcott of Swanzey, N.H.; and four grandchildren.

Friends may call from 3 to 7 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will meet friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center.

6-1-95
Florence M. Miller, 87, of 621 41st St. died of cancer Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Miller, a homemaker, was born in Winnebago, Minn., and moved to Des Moines in 1938. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, PEO and Order of the Eastern Star. She also was a former volunteer at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

Among survivors are a son, Bruce of Los Angeles; a daughter, Jacquie McGrew of Chicago; two brothers, Roy Johnson and Elwin Johnson, both of Aiken, Minn.; a sister, Avis Johnson of Aiken; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Katherine C. Woodburn, 99, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of pneumonia there Tuesday. A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial of the remains will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in Resthaven Cemetery.

Mrs. Woodburn was born in Washington, D.C., and moved to Des Moines in 1918. She was a homemaker.

Among survivors are three sons, F. Coville of Ormond Beach, Fla., Chester of Des Moines and Boynton of Waukee; 12 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wesley Acres Good Samaritan fund. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. 6/22/95

6-23-95
Anna T. Dusenbery, 106, of 4508 Carpenter Ave. died of a heart ailment Tuesday at home. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Dusenbery was born in Beacon and had lived in Des Moines since 1912. She had been a piano and organ teacher and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and the Des Moines Women's Club.

She is survived by four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to her church.

IOWA BOY



Chuck
OFFENBURGER

6/22/95
 Here's looking at you, Spud

Twin Falls, Idaho — So this is the place where they really do grow the potatoes everybody always asks us about when they find out we're from Iowa.

With the beautiful, snow-capped Sawtooth Mountains beckoning us northward, we on the Iowa 150 Bike Ride/A Sesquicentennial Expedition reached Idaho on Tuesday.

emer Grinnell College president Glenn Leggett, reminded me in a chat the other night how fortunate we have been that Nevada was having extremely cool weather after its wettest spring in 40 years.

In the high desert, she said, "you could have easily been riding in temperatures of 90 and above."

Instead, our starts the final two mornings we were in Nevada were at about 40 degrees. We rode in long tights, jackets and winter gloves until temperatures eased up to about 60.

The desert, instead of stinging us with sandstorms as it might well have this time of year, was damp and alive with green shrubbery and wildflowers of every color.

We have been properly grateful.

Cecil Goettsch, 52, a rider from West Des Moines who is a member of the outstanding choirs at Plymouth Congregational Church, pedaled into the town of Wells late Sunday morning in time for services at the Presbyterian Church.

After joining about 20 members for worship and then coffee afterward, Goettsch told the group, "I've been riding in these mountains in Nevada for a week now, and I'd really like to sing a song I've been thinking a lot about out here. Would you do me a favor and let me sing it for you?"

They all filed back into the church and there, with a wide window view of the snowy, 11,500-foot Ruby Mountain just outside town, Goettsch sang "How Great Thou Art."

Our final overnight stop in Nevada was Monday in the northern border town of Jackpot, pop. 1,000. When you

and 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$3 for youth and seniors.

■ **The Plymouth Organ Series** will feature Linda Pointer and Carl Gravander Jr. with music for harpsichord and organ at 3 p.m. Sunday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. 5/20/95

■ **The Senior Choir** of St. Stephen's

June 1995

Iowa denomination elects leader

The Rev. Susan Ingham, associate conference minister in the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ, has been elected to the denomination's top spiritual and administrative position in Iowa.

Ingham, an Iowa native, was elected conference minister at the recent annual meeting of the Iowa Conference, held at Grinnell College. The denomination has



**Ingham
Minister**

44,146 members in 204 Iowa churches.

She will assume the Iowa duties in mid-September, succeeding the Rev. Donald Gall, who resigned last August to become senior pastor of Eden United Church of Christ in Haywood, Calif.

Ingham was born in Manchester and graduated from New Hampton High School. She holds degrees from the University of Iowa, the University of Maine in Orono, and Bangor Theological Seminary in Bangor, Maine.

Ingham was a parish pastor 12 years before joining the Maine conference staff. Her husband, Tom, is also a United Church of Christ minister.

The Iowa Conference headquarter-

Euclid Ave., will host a revival Sunday through Wednesday with Richard and Gracie Ginther of Galesburg, Ill. The Ginthers will present old-fashioned singing and preaching at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. weekdays.

A Latin Mass will be celebrated by the Rev. David Santoro at 4 p.m. Sunday at the Basilica of St. John, 1915 University Ave.

Continuing a summer tradition of shared services, the congregation of Collegiate Presbyterian Church in Ames will be guests at Northminster Presbyterian Church, also in Ames, on July 16. An item in this column last week gave a wrong date for the service.

Music

by Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan and become effective today.

DONATION 7-7-95

The Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ has given a \$4,115 donation to Friends of New Parents, a Lutheran Social Service of Iowa program designed to prevent child abuse and neglect. The program matches trained volunteers with new or expectant mothers to provide baby care education, nurturing, assistance with community resources and emotional support.

INFORMATION for announcements to appear on this page must be sent to [redacted] by [redacted].

Frank Thomas of Des Moines, special assistant to the president of Grinnell College, was elected assistant moderator of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ, which meets every two years. Thomas, a member of Plymouth Congregational and the board of directors of the UCC's regional Iowa Conference, will assist the presiding officer at the 21st general synod in Columbus, Ohio, in 1997. 7/29/95

Martin Luther Homes will celebrate its first year in the metro area

Vera E. Borger, 82, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of renal failure Thursday at Hospice Kavanagh House.



Services will be at 11:30 a.m. Sunday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, and burial of the cremains will be at Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Carbon-

dale, Ill.

Mrs. Borger was born in Farina, Ill., and moved to Des Moines 12 years ago. She retired as supervisor of admissions at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Surviving are two daughters, Linda Bardole of Des Moines and Betty Vera Hollander of New York City; a brother, Francis Schmidt of Williamsville, N.Y.; and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Plymouth Church, Wesley Acres Good Samaritan fund or Hospice Kavanagh House. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. 8/23/95

DES MOINES DEATHS

R. Louise Pratt, 83, of 317 S.W. 42nd St. died of cancer Monday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The



body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member.

Mrs. Pratt was born in Fairfield and lived in Des Moines since 1945. She was retired from the Iowa Department of Education and the Department of Revenue and Finance. She was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Colonists, National Society of the Dames of the Court of Honor, National Society of the United States Daughters of 1812, Chapter Q of P.E.O., Iowa Genealogical Society, Iowa Local Historical and Museum Society, State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa Historical Foundation, Polk County Historical Society, Iowa Society for the Preservation of Historical Landmarks, Iowa Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, Sons and Daughters of Pioneer Riverman, National Rivers Hall of Fame, Terrace Hill Society, the Audubon Society and Living History Farms.

Survivors include her husband, LeRoy; a son, LeRoy II of Los Angeles; a daughter, Patricia Mathern of West Des Moines; two brothers, Jack McFadden and George McFadden, both of Keota; three grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or any organization listed above. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

Donations

The homeless assistance team at Plymouth Congregational Church picks up unwanted furniture on the second Saturday of each month. Yes, we have missed the March pickup, but that gives you more time to spring-clean and get furniture together for the April 13 pickup. The team will pick up from your home, give you a tax-deduction receipt for donated items and deliver the items to a central storage point where they are then chosen by people in need. The team is always looking for volunteers to help out on these days. To volunteer or arrange for a pickup, call 222-1902.

Inside Scoop

Lesli Barnes, 35, of 677 16th St. died Saturday at home of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The death



was ruled a suicide. Memorial services will be at 1:30 p.m. today at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. An additional service will be

at 10 a.m. Thursday at the United Church of Christ Congregational in Vermillion, S.D. Burial of the cremains will be private.

Miss Barnes was born in Ames and moved to Des Moines 1½ years ago after living in Atlanta and Sioux Falls, S.D. She was a respiratory therapist at Integrated Health Services.

She is survived by her mother, Alice Barnes, and her father, Robert, both of Vermillion; a sister, Laura Barnes of Sioux City; and a brother, Eric of Sioux Falls.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church. Westover Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. 12-12-95

'Unfair dinner' Thursday at Plymouth church

An utterly "unfair dinner" to dramatize world hunger will be served at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

The event will illustrate the disparity in world food distribution, which dictates that people of wealthy nations are well-fed, while those of Third World nations starve. Thus, 15 percent of the diners Thursday will get a typical American meal, while the majority will be served rice and water.

The event will also feature speeches by state Rep. Ed Fallon, D-Des Moines; Scott Larsen of the Door of Faith Mission; and a representative of Oxfam, an organization which works to prevent world hunger.

The annual dinner is organized by Students for Environmental Action, a Roosevelt High School group.

No reservations are needed, but a \$3 donation is suggested. For information, call 277-2220. 12/12/95

MOCC

12/14/95

The Breakfast Club of Plymouth Congregational Church is asking for **volunteers** to help serve Christmas dinner from noon to 4 p.m. (or any portion thereof) Sunday at United Mexican Community Center, 828 S.E. Scott St. The center needs help with serving, as well as distribution of gifts to needy children and families. To help, call 279-4732 or 255-3149.

'THE WORD OF GOD'

Minister: Bible opposes school on gay issue

By TOM ALEX

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

A Des Moines school district proposal to teach about homosexuality would promote a gay lifestyle, a Baptist minister told his flock Sunday.

"We believe that the Bible is the true word of God and it clearly teaches that homosexual behavior is wrong," the Rev. Jerry Erickson told his congregation at Union Park Baptist Church. "And to require Christian teachers to teach that it is right causes them to have to choose between their religion and their job, and it is a violation of their religious rights."

He said the proposal is biased. "When you encourage youth to go to

INSIDE

The text of the proposal.

Page 9A

An editorial.

Page 8A

SERMONS Please turn to Page 2A

Minister: Bible opposes 'promoting' gays in school

SERMONS

Continued from Page 1A

a gay, lesbian and bisexual youth conference, it seems to me you are into promotion. Or when you present information about the contributions of famous gay, lesbian and bisexual people, you are promoting."

Church members nodded in agreement.

"Indirect Reference"

Meanwhile, across town at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, the Rev. Faith Ferre, minister of discipleship, said at Sunday's service that the church needs to be a place where people can be who they are without masks or subterfuge.

"If that isn't an indirect reference to people who are homosexual, I don't know what is," Ferre said in an interview afterward. But the sermon was not focused on the school proposal, she said. It was written before the issue cropped up.

After the service, Ferre said she thinks it is unfair to criticize a proposal so early in the process. "It hasn't yet gone through all the levels of refinement," she said of the plan, which was written by a district committee and hasn't been considered by the school board.

But members of Union Park Baptist were already considering the report. As they entered the church Sunday, they received three-page copies of the "Proposal for Infusion of Sexual Orientation Issues in the Multicultural Nonsexist Education Plan."

Erickson told members that "the Lord loves homosexuals. He does not approve of homosexual conduct, but he loves the individual and he loves him so much that he sent his son Jesus to bring deliverance from the power of that orientation. In I Corin-

MEETINGS

■ Opponents of the Des Moines school district's proposed policy on teaching about homosexuality plan an organizational meeting today at 7 p.m. at First Federated Church, 4801 Franklin Ave.

■ People may speak to the school board about the proposal at a public forum at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the district office, 1800 Grand Ave. The forum will be broadcast live on cable channel 4.

thians 6:9 ... homosexuals were listed amongst the group of people that the Bible says will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Wrong To Be Gay?

Erickson quoted a recent issue of the North High School student paper, which asked, "Why does society look down on homosexuals so negatively? Nowhere does it say that it is wrong to be gay."

"Let me respond to that," he said. "The Bible does say that same-gender sex is wrong. And if you believe that the Bible is the word of God, as we evangelicals do, then God says same-gender sex is wrong. Leviticus 18:22 says, 'Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable.' Or again in Leviticus 20:13 we read, 'If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable.'"

On every page of the district proposal, one can find the words homophobia and homophobic, Erickson told the congregation.

"A phobia is an exaggerated and irrational fear," he said. "Now I'm sure that there are some people in our world who have an irrational fear of homosexuals. But the word is used these days as a means of discrediting anyone who objects to homosexuality being taught as a normative and correct behavior."

"Five weeks ago I attended the funeral of a childhood friend. He was openly gay and died of AIDS. My heart weeps for him and the life that was wasted. I believe most Christians feel the same. It's not a fear of homosexuals but a love for them, a desire to see them freed of destructive behavior that motivates Christians to speak out on this issue."

"The school board's philosophy seems to be that the way to achieve harmony and have tolerance for gay and lesbian students is to foster a uniformity of belief about homosexuality which insists that all students believe that such a lifestyle is moral and right."

"Jesus took a different approach to achieving harmony between people. He never condoned immoral behavior, but he said, 'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.' ... Jesus was criticized for hanging out with sinners and the tax-gatherers who cheated. But he didn't accept their sinful lifestyles."

WHAT SHOULD BE TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS?

THE DES MOINES REGISTER ■ THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1995 3M

Divided on gays, united in 'respect'

Religious leaders, meeting to discuss an issue that has split the community, focus first on what they share.

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

Religious leaders seeking common ground on a proposal to teach about homosexuality in the Des Moines public schools said they were encouraged by their first meeting Wednesday.

There had been concern that the first meeting of the 14-member group might be its last. That was because of strongly held and contradicting views about homosexuality, both based on interpretations of the Bible. But a second closed-door meeting was set for Friday.

"We treated each other with respect and love, even in the midst of disagreement," said the Rev. James Ryan, executive director of Ecumenical Ministries of Iowa.

Ryan and the Rev. Forrest Harms, executive director of the Des Moines Area Religious Council, convened the group after school Superintendent Gary Wegenke requested help from religious leaders.

Harms read a brief statement after Wednesday's first meeting. "In a spirit of respect and cooperation, the conversation focused on the search for common ground within the two earlier clergy statements," the statement said. "Acknowledging their differences, participants readily

affirmed the faithful sincerity of one another and made a commitment to further dialogue."

One of the two prior statements was from a Jan. 2 meeting in which 29 ministers and a rabbi, speaking only for themselves, signed an open letter to the school board expressing support for the district's non-discrimination policy and confidence in the board. The statement said homosexuality "should be presented realistically and honestly as part of the way the world is."

The other was a Tuesday statement signed by 104 ministers, including pastors of 74 congregations. It said sexual expression outside of marriage is "sinful" and the curriculum proposal tries to present homosexual behavior as "acceptable." It rejects the proposal as infringing on the rights of home and church, but it strongly denounces intolerance and acknowledges that homosexuals have suffered mistreatment.

Wegenke was not available for comment Wednesday, but an aide said: "We are pleased by the dialogue and support from Christian clergy who really want to help us resolve concerns." The aide, Ray Armstrong, associate superintendent for teaching and learning, also said school administrators are listening to the voices of the community.

Wegenke plans to present a statement on the issue to the school board at a Jan. 24 meeting.

Wednesday's participants included Mark Brinkmoeller of the Catholic Diocese office of social justice, a layman, and these ministers: the Revs.

List of clergy opposed to teaching about gays

Here are the names, and religious affiliations, of clergy who signed a statement opposing a proposal to teach about homosexuality in Des Moines public schools. (One name was omitted because it was illegible.):

Tony Vis, Meredith Drive Reformed; Gary Clark, Olivet Baptist; Bruce Wittern, Easton Place United Methodist; John Palmer, First Assembly of God; Keith Ratliff, Maple Street Baptist; Jerry Erickson, Union Park Baptist; Duane Gibson, First Baptist; Paul Bawden, Westchester Evangelical Free.

Ray Johnson, Evangelical chaplaincy; Jes Tarp, Johnston Evangelical Free; James Weaver, New Hope Assembly of God; Andy Bales, Good Samaritan Urban Ministries; Jodi Weber, Metro Assembly of God; Camille Cox, Metro Assembly of God.

C. Kevin Thompson, Debra Heights Wesleyan; Bill Mars, Child Evangelism Fellowship of Iowa; Paul Gunderson, Redeemer Lutheran; Dennis Niles, Glad Tidings Assembly of God; J. Kenneth Groen, First Open Bible; Gary Vande Kamp, Adventure-Life Reformed; Dan Beyer, Adventure-Life Reformed.

Tom Allen, First Federated; Richard Reed, Eastside Church of the Nazarene; David Bombala, Evangelical Covenant; Scott Brady, Evangelical Covenant; Warren Rogers, Faith Church of the Nazarene; Greg McCall, True Vine, Ray Smith, Open Bible Churches.

Jim Bealard, Fort Des Moines Church of the Open Bible; H.I. Thomas, Hebron Baptist; Michael Murray, Kyles A.M.E. Zion; James Harris, Mount Union Baptist; Alex Crawford, Morningstar Baptist; E.L. Dillard, St. Johns Full Gospel; Alton Kornegay, Mount Zion Baptist; Sherman Brown, Shiloh Baptist; Henry Simmons, New Bethel Baptist; Thomas Smith, Mount Olive Baptist; R.O. Daye, New Friendship Church of God in Christ; Eddie Davis, Prayer of Faith Church of God in Christ.

Phillip Tindrell, New Jerusalem Church of God in Christ; David Reasby, Lighthouse Baptist; H.I. Jones, Second Baptist; Terrance Cooley, Maple Street Baptist; Larry Davis, Maple Street Baptist; Willie Bumpus, Maple Street Baptist.

James Wright, Mount Olive Baptist; Ivan Lewis, Mount Olive Baptist; Steven Poetzi, Heartland Church of the Open Bible; Keith Korver, Calvary Christian Life; David Reasby, Lighthouse Full Gospel Baptist; David Goodwin, Bob Taber, First Federated; Carl Van Farrow, Stover Memorial Church of the Brethren; Nicholas Gress, First Church of God; Harvey Ross, Evangelical Chapel Foursquare Gospel.

William G. Larson, Iowa Baptist Conference; Jim Dykstra, Bethany Reformed; Jack Van Marmon, Des Moines Christian Reformed; Jay Braband, Westview; Neil Rippey, Free Methodist; David Lightner, Eastside Evangelical Free; Perry Makeeff, Worldwide Ministries.

Helen Martin, New Life Center; Walt Russell, Highland Park Open Bible; Jerald Bernhardt, Bethel Open Bible; Clearcense Gullett, Trinity Church for Deaf; Carey Huffman, Berean Assembly of God; Timothy Beagle, First Assembly of God.

Ray Henderson, First Assembly of God; Ron Strack, First Assembly of God; Tom Drake, First Assembly of God; Lance Lecocq, First Assembly of God; David Nelms, Grace Church; Jim Ford, Staves Memorial United Methodist.

M. D. Eppright, Prayer of Faith; Linton Lundeen, Valley Evangelical Free; John Hurt, Lighthouse of Faith; Kevin Sorensen, Altoona Evangelical Free; Dennis Dillon, Eastside Church of the Nazarene; Quintin Sheff, Valley Evangelical Free; Jim Kirkpatrick, Johnston Evangelical Free; Don Long, Bondurant Federated; John Berglund, Cornerstone Community; Charles Austin, First Assembly of God; Dawn Curtis, Valley Assembly of God; West Des Moines; Steve Beeman, First Assembly of God; Gene Phillips, Nazarene churches; Dave Humble, First Nazarene; Timothy Braun, Hope Lutheran; Ted Weishaupt, Christ the King Lutheran.

Bruce Underman, Ankeny St. Paul Lutheran; Lawrence Manson, St. John Full Gospel Baptist; Emma J. William, Greater Zion Church; Anna McDonald, St. John Full Gospel Baptist; R.B. Knox, Progressive Full Gospel; Eric Christenson, First Federated.

Lee Sundberg, Westchester Evangelical Free; Don Mars, First Federated Church; Peter Wegner, Peace Lutheran; Ray Lewis, Good Samaritan Urban Ministries; Steve Boggess, Hope Lutheran Church; Fred Kraemer, Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School.

Karen Chakoian, Central Presbyterian; David Clark, Grace United Methodist; Jerry Erickson, Union Park Baptist; Harms; John Palmer, First Assembly of God; Keith Ratliff, Maple Street Baptist; Elton Richards, St. John's Lutheran; David Ruhe, Plymouth Congregational; Ryan; Hugh Stone, Epworth United Methodist; H.I. Thomas, Union Baptist; Tony Vis, Meredith Drive Reformed; and Bruce Wittern, Easton Place United Methodist.

Both sides use Bible to boost arguments on homosexuality

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

The Holy Bible — the Sacred Scriptures of Christians and Jews, a road map to love, peace, forgiveness and faith — has become a flash point in the furor over a proposal to teach about homosexuality in the Des Moines public schools.

Passionate appeals to the Bible filled the air by both proponents and opponents of the proposal during an eight-hour public forum before the school board last week.

The controversy over the proposal has highlighted the chasm between the two ways 20th-century Americans view the Bible.

One group views the Bible as the inerrant word of God, to be taken literally for all time. Its moral injunctions and ethical norms are as binding today as when they were written millennia ago. Those holding this view would likely label themselves "conservative," "evangelical" or "fundamentalist" Christians, though many are in denominations considered more "liberal." They are likely to use words like "sin" or "abomination" in referring to

Religious leaders were asked to find common ground on a sensitive issue — teaching about gays in schools.

homosexuality. They fervently oppose the curriculum proposal.

Changing World

The other group views the Bible as a source of inspiration and guidance in a changing world. They insist on the importance of the social, cultural, moral and scientific context in which the biblical writers lived and how it may have influenced them.

Among Christians, those approaching the Bible this way will likely be found among Catholic and "mainline" Protestant churches. Protestants may be more likely to be open to the proposal, though they may oppose it on biblical or other grounds. The Catholic hierarchy condemns the practice of homosexuality.

Among Jews, there is also debate about how literally

RELIGIONS Please turn to Page 4A

RELIGIONS

Continued from Page 1A

to interpret the Bible, with Orthodox Jews taking the strictest view.

The three-page proposal came from a district advisory committee on sexual orientation. It calls for teaching about homosexuality — including recognition of historical contributions of homosexuals, support for gay and lesbian students, and increasing the number of "accurate" gay/lesbian/bisexual materials in district libraries.

Immediate Response

Its disclosure brought immediate responses from religious leaders.

Twenty evangelical pastors met and organized a protest rally that drew 3,000 people to First Federated Church Monday night.

Twenty-nine Christian clergy and one rabbi — noting they spoke only for themselves — signed an open letter to the school board expressing support for the district's non-discrimination policy and confidence in the board.

"We believe that homosexuality should neither be promoted nor condemned in schools," the letter said, "however, it also shouldn't be ignored. To the extent that homosexuality is a factor in people's lives, in history, in the arts, in politics and in relationships, it should be presented realistically and honestly as part of

the way the world is."

Superintendent of Schools Gary Wegenke asked religious leaders to try to find some common ground. The Rev. Forrest Harms, executive director of the Des Moines Area Religious Council, and the Rev. James Ryan, executive director of Ecumenical Ministries of Iowa, were busy at week's end lining up a cross-section of clergy to take on the task.

"Serious Problems"

It doesn't look easy.

"We still have very serious problems with the proposal," said the Rev. Jerry Erickson, pastor of Union Park Baptist Church and president of the Des Moines Evangelical Ministerial Association. He and several

other evangelicals have agreed to take part in the discussions, which Harms said may begin this week.

"If there is common ground for anything we can agree on, we will explore that," Erickson said. "We (evangelicals) believe that what Scripture teaches we can accept as true. The Bible is written from a context of culture, but it is also the objective word of God. There are interpretations for our time, but we don't believe that sin changes." And, he insists, both the Old and New Testaments label homosexuality as sin.

Bill Horn agreed. "The Bible couldn't be more clear on this issue; it is a sin," said Horn, spokesman for a small Christian group called The Report, and a leader in opposition to

the school proposal. "I believe the pastors do want to come together, go to the table and find some common ground, but from the beginning one group believes it is a sin and the other believes it is not. The (only) common ground is that we all want to create a safe place in school for our children."

Of the long list of items suggested in the proposal, Horn said there is "nothing whatsoever" that he would be willing to see implemented.

Different View

The Rev. David Ruhe, pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, views the Bible differently.

"If we believe the Bible was dictat-

ed by God and was merely written down in a mechanical way, you accept inerrancy," he said. "If we believe the word of God comes to us through people who were immersed in their own times and cultures, then we are constantly at the task of interpretation."

Ruhe cited an early leader of his congregational tradition. Pastor John Robinson told the Pilgrims before they headed for America: "The Lord hath yet more light and truth to break forth out of his Holy Word." To Ruhe, "Scripture becomes the living word of God through the prayerful process of wrestling with the text. We take the Bible very seriously. We don't take it literally," said Ruhe, one of the 30 clergy signers to the letter to the school board.

Though in the four Gospels there are no recorded statements by Jesus about homosexuality, there are clear-cut biblical condemnations in both testaments.

"Put to Death"

One often cited is Leviticus 20:13, which says, "If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall be put to death..."

Also, there's Romans 1:26-27, which reads: "For this reason God gave them up to degrading passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and in the same way also the men, giving up natural intercourse with women, were consumed with passion for one another. Men committed shameful acts with men and received in their own persons the penalty for their error."

Those verses are clear-cut, though some scholars suggest some passages that appear to condemn homosexuality may not have done so in the original texts.

But the chasm remains. A conservative theologian says nothing could be clearer than St. Paul's words in the Romans passage, and Paul's words were part of God's word.

A theologian on the other side will say no one dreamed in Paul's day that people might be born with homosexual orientation. But now, many people believe that to be true.

D.M. BOARD TO DECIDE

12-30-94 (back)

Clergy join debate of gay school issue

'Hidden agenda' or practical lessons of 'real-life things' — the proposal is a hot topic of discussion.

By PERRY BEEMAN
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

The prospect of Des Moines schools teaching about homosexuality has split area religious leaders in an emotional debate that is taking place in pulpits and newspapers, on the airwaves and in meeting halls.

Pastors who oppose the idea will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at First Federated Church. The Gay and Lesbian Resource Center is completing plans for a Monday meeting, and mainline Protestant ministers will gather at 10 a.m. Monday at Central Presbyterian Church. The matter is not on the Des Moines school board's Tuesday night agenda, but the public may speak on non-agenda items at 5 p.m.

Some religious leaders said Thursday that the idea of including homosexual issues in the curriculum is good because it would emphasize the rights and dignity of people, wheth-

er they are heterosexual, homosexual or bisexual. But others said the district should shelve all or part of the plan because teachers could, on purpose or by accident, end up advocating homosexual activity.

"Doesn't Belong"

"I don't think it belongs in the curriculum," said Monsignor Frank Bognanno of St. Augustin's Church. "What is the hidden agenda? Will children see it as a legitimate, morally acceptable, safe lifestyle? It is none of those things."

"The orientation is neutral, but to act on that orientation is morally wrong. Why this big push to uphold this lifestyle and to put it throughout the entire curriculum?"

About 20 pastors who met Monday at First Federated Church oppose the plan, saying the curriculum would improperly interfere with parents' roles in teaching about sexuality.

But not all religious leaders share those objections. Rabbi Neil Sandler of Tifereth Israel Synagogue likes the idea of classroom discussions of

CLERGY Please turn to Page 2A

Classes on gays split clergy

CLERGY

Continued from Page 1A
gay issues. "It's so clear that the schools are not going to take a position on homosexuality that to think otherwise is naive," Sandler said. "The school is just providing information."

A district committee has said the district should eventually include "appropriate information" about homosexuality in "all appropriate subject areas and all grade levels." Included, among many other things, would be information on homophobia, the "contributions of famous gay, lesbian and bisexual people," and "the nature of same-gender families and parenting."

"Real-Life Things"

The Rev. Faith Ferre of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, which welcomes gay members, said she supports the idea of classroom lessons about homosexuality. She has not reviewed the specific plan.

"I'd rather have my daughter learn about homosexuality from class rather than from the jokes she hears on the playground," Ferre said. "It doesn't make any sense to exclude teaching about real-life things in the classroom. The children will have classmates and relatives and store vendors who are gay, lesbian and bisexual."

The Rev. Delbert Dawes of First United Methodist Church, also

POLICY

A Des Moines school district committee's proposal to teach students about homosexuality will be published Monday in its entirety on The Register's Essay/Comment page.

would welcome the lessons in school. "It's part of the Des Moines schools' task to deal with stereotyping and discrimination," Dawes said. "It is a crucial part of the task of the education system to talk about it and to engage in the types of questions students might have. The curriculum needs to be submitted for examination so it's very clear how they will approach it."

Dawes doesn't fear a public school endorsement of homosexual activity. "I don't see the public school system espousing it at all," he said. "I took it as more of an educational undertaking."

"Teach About Tolerance"

Kevin Gilchrist, an official of the Church of the Holy Spirit, a predominantly gay church, said: "Basically our church would support the proposal. It sounds as though they will teach about homosexuality. The purpose will be to teach about tolerance of people who are different."

The Rev. Charles Woolery of Burns United Methodist Church said he would support teaching high

school students about homosexuality, but he fears teaching younger students about homosexuality.

"I have a fear that it would influence them on choosing that lifestyle," Woolery said. "Also, I'm concerned how they present it. If they present it in such a way that makes the students aware that homosexuals exist, that's fine."

Gilchrist rejected the idea children will become gay because of what they hear in class. "Homosexuality is not something that is taught," he said.

"Very Cautious"

Monsignor Frank Chiodo of the Basilica of St. John said there is room for some discussion but "we have to be very, very cautious about this proposal."

"My position is, if you are going to have a unit of study about respecting other people and the dignity of every human being, you could touch on the subject of homosexuality," Chiodo said. "However, any classroom presentation of sexually active homosexual behavior is inappropriate in the classroom."

Chiodo would object to lessons about famous people who happened to be gay because students might see it as endorsing homosexuality, which the Catholic Church considers immoral. "Our philosophy is 'Love the sinner but hate the sin,'" Chiodo said.

Competition on Christmas

12-24-94

Church attendance drops when the 25th is a Sunday

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

So, you think that when the festival of Christmas falls on a Sunday it must be a great blessing for pastors and churches. Think again.

"It's a mixed bag," says the Rev. David Nelms, pastor of Grace Church, 4200 E. 25th St. "It's the worst day for Christmas to fall on so far as attendance is concerned."

The Rev. Timothy Diebel, pastor of First Christian Church, 2500 University Ave., says what happens illustrates the clash between church and culture customs.

Makes Distinction

When Christmas falls on Sunday, "It makes evident the distinction between what Christmas is and what we wish it were," observes the Rev. David Ruhe, pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

This is one of those years. A World Almanac calendar says it won't happen again until 2005.

When it happens, churches compete with family traditions of gift-giving, special meals and trips. Sunday school teachers, choirs and other volunteers are all caught up in the maelstrom of Christmas activities.

Schedules for Sunday in central Iowa indicate that if you plan to visit a church you aren't familiar with, you should check ahead for service times. This is a typical situation in Protestant churches: Sunday school is canceled. Churches that normally have two or three services cut back to one. Churches that still have Sunday night services cancel them.

Catholic Tradition

Christmas Day Mass is a strong



Nelms



Ruhe

tradition for Catholics no matter what day of the week it falls on. While some parishes may trim the Mass schedule Sunday, it will likely be closer to business-as-usual than in Protestant churches.

Pastors interviewed for this article saw some irony in all this and expressed concerns about compromising. But they also saw spiritual values in the warmth of family gatherings. They were more interested in making Sunday's services joyful and meaningful for those who do show up than in railing about those who don't.

"I came from a very legalistic (religious) background," Nelms says. "I wouldn't have considered accommodating to the inclinations of the society. I still kind of rebel about cutting things out on the Lord's birthday. But I know God looks with favor on family time."

"God ordained the church, but he ordained the home first. The home is suffering today. Christmas is a day for the family to be together. We should do all we can to strengthen families."

The Grace Church Sunday schedule is typical — Sunday school and the evening service canceled; a 10:30 a.m. service instead of two morning services.

"A Wonderful Time"

"The way I look at it, for those who are here, it will be a wonderful time to celebrate the Lord's birthday," Nelms says. His comments were echoed by other pastors.

"When Christmas is on Sunday, in some ways you are dealing with the faithful remnant, the hard core," observed Ruhe. He says the trimmed schedule and smaller crowds "heightens the contrast between

church and culture. What you do is to explore the deeper and lasting significance of the day; the stuff that sticks with you after the Christmas wrapping is thrown away."

Ruhe figures attendance may not take as severe a plunge at Plymouth because of a beloved figure who will preach there for the last time Sunday. The Rev. Alden Hebard, longtime minister of membership at the church, will retire at year's end.

Diebel pondered a puzzle about Christianity's two great festivals — Christmas and Easter. Huge crowds and added services greet Easter, which is always on Sunday. Christmas is a downer, at least in numbers and scheduling, if it falls on Sunday.

"Easter essentially remains a sacred celebration," he says. "Christmas, even in the church, has become more generalized. Family warmth and closeness has taken on a life of its own. Easter is not the warm, cuddly, family thing that Christmas is."

This will be the first Christmas as pastor of St. Ambrose Cathedral, 607 High St., for the Rev. Richard Gubbels. He expects the usual packed cathedral for midnight Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Charron, and he hopes the Catholic tradition of going to church on Christmas Day holds up, even on Sunday.

"A lot of us have it in our bones to go to midnight Mass and then go to Mass on Christmas," he says.

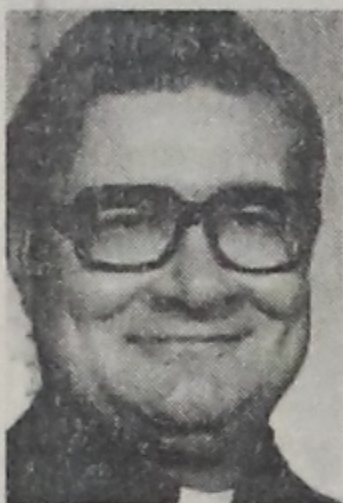
Workload Lightened

For Catholic priests, the workload is lightened a bit when Christmas falls on Sunday. The regular Sunday Mass schedule becomes the Christmas Day Mass.

But, Gubbels notes, next year, when Christmas is Monday, "we will do double duty." On Sunday, priests will celebrate Mass for the fourth Sunday in Advent. "Then we will change from blue and purple to gold and white, change our vestments and come back out" for the big Christmas Eve schedule, then lead Christmas Day Mass on Monday.

Ruhe, too, suggested "next year will be tougher." He says it takes some shifting to move from big Sunday morning Advent services to Sunday Christmas Eve services.

But that is next year's problem.



Gubbels



Diebel

ADVERTISEMENT

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December 24th

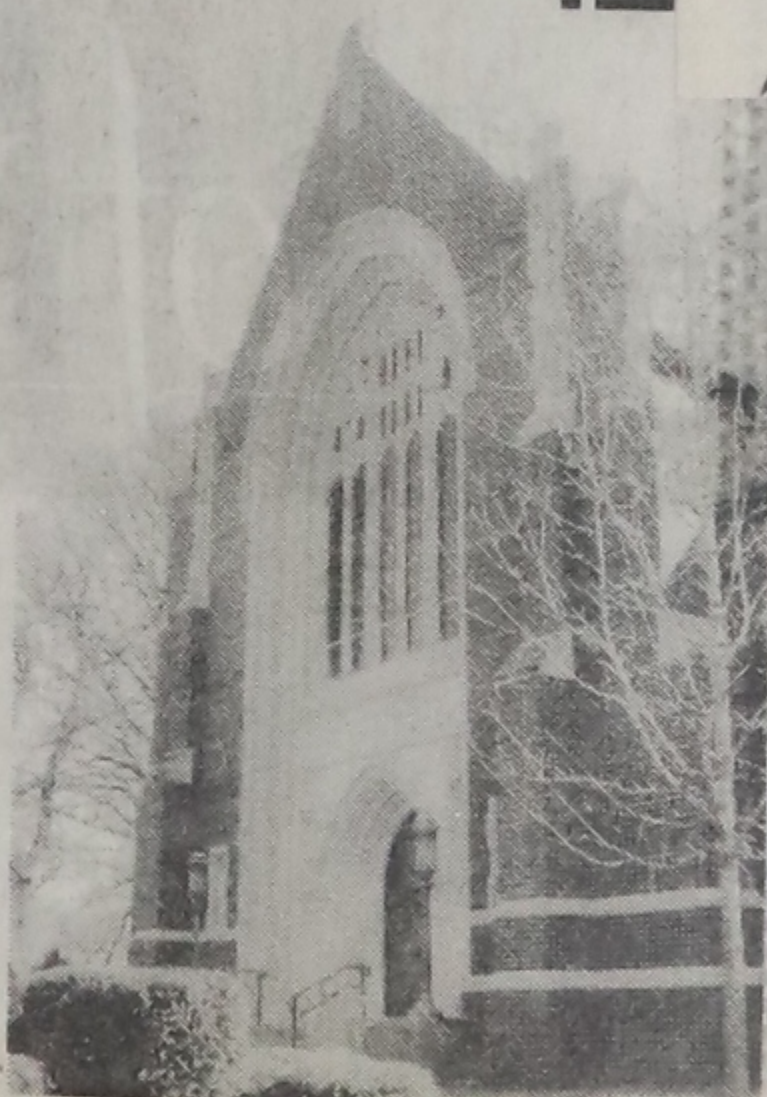
at

Plymouth Congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FOUR CHRISTMAS
EVE SERVICES

5:00 p.m.
FAMILY SERVICE

7:00 p.m.,
9:00 p.m.
and
11:00 p.m.
CANDLELIGHT
SERVICES



Ingersoll and 42nd Street
(Just 2 blocks South of 42nd Street Freeway exit)

THANKSGIVING EVENTS

Governor's proclamation included in Pilgrim service

The State Thanksgiving Proclamation will be read by Gov. Terry Branstad at a 10 a.m. service Thanksgiving Day at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

The traditional Pilgrim service includes families and choir dressed in Pilgrim clothing, joined by Indian guests the Mingwa Dancers. The sermon by the Rev. David Ruhe will be "The Spirit of Thanksgiving and the Burden of Affluence." The offering will be used to help the homeless through the ministries of Plymouth's Homeless Assistance Team.

Following are additional services of Thanksgiving being held in the metro area.

■ **Organ music.** The Plymouth Organ Series will present organist Carl Gravander performing music by Bach, Franck and Vierne at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Plymouth Congregational Church, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Admission is free. 10/94

Nov. 1994

JOIN WITH US IN DES MOINES' TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE 10:00 A.M.



Remember the first Thanksgiving at our traditional Pilgrim Service. Join families clad in Pilgrim garb in giving thanks.

STATE THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

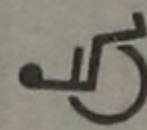
GOVERNOR TERRY BRANSTAD

SERMON: "The Spirit of Thanksgiving
& The Burden of Affluence"

David R. Ruhe, Senior Minister

OFFERING FOR

The Homeless of Des Moines Through
the Plymouth Homeless Assistance Team



**Plymouth Congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

4126 Ingersoll (Just 2 blocks South of 42nd St. Freeway Exit)
Child care for pre-kindergarten



Sunday marks beginning of four weeks of Advent

Sunday marks the start of the four-week season of Advent, in which Christians prepare spiritually for the celebration of Christmas which, this year, falls on a Sunday.

Church observances will range from lavish musical and dramatic productions to the traditional children's Christmas programs. Special weekly Advent meals, services and discussions on Advent themes will be held in some churches.

Area Advent observances include:

Central Lutheran Church, 525 E. Ninth St. — Advent services, 7 p.m. Wednesdays through Dec. 21.

Faith Lutheran Church, 10395 University Ave., Clive — Family soup suppers at 6 p.m. and Service of Light at 7 p.m., each Wednesday through Dec. 14. The Advent Hapening program of craft, stories, snacks and carols, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 511 Des Moines St. — Advent worship with Holy Communion, noon Wednesdays through Dec. 21.

Galilee Baptist Church, 2208 Des Moines St. — April and Her Joyful Puppets will perform an introduction to Christmas at 10:30 a.m. services Sunday.

Grace Lutheran Church, 3010 52nd St. — J.S. Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Friday by choirs from Southwestern Community College's School for Music Vocations in Creston.

Highland Park Lutheran Church, 147 E. Euclid Ave. — Soup suppers will be held at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Dec. 14. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12. The Rev. Curt Joseph has written a series on John the Baptist called "A Voice in the Wilderness," which will be part of each week's program.

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. — Plymouth Organ Series presents Music of Advent with Carl Gra-vander, John Lytle and Keith Meen-dering at 3 p.m. Sunday.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5720 Urbandale Ave. — Advent breakfast, 9 a.m. Sunday. Cost is \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children 12 and under.

St. John's Lutheran Church, 601 Keosauqua Way — "Advent Abounds" program, 6 p.m. Sunday in Weertz Fellowship Hall. A Christmas craft will be made to display the symbols of the Advent season, and a meal will be served by the Nexus group. The variety show "Radio Days II — The Sequel" will follow at 7:15 p.m., featuring vocal and instrumental music, a quiz show and a radio drama.

Wakonda Christian Church, 3938 Fleur Drive — Alternative Christmas Market, 7 p.m. Sunday. Eleven booths will feature information on local and international needs.

12-25-94

Verna Hayner Losee, 92, of Fleur Heights Care Center, 4911 S.W. 19th St., died of a stroke there Dec. 21. The body has been donated to the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences for medical research. A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Plymouth Place.

Miss Losee was born in Stillwater, N.Y., and lived in Holstein and Ames before moving to Des Moines. She retired as a cashier for the Internal Revenue Service and was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, and Chapter EH of PEO.

There are no immediate survivors.

Memorial contributions may be made to Plymouth Place. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

Ethel A. Graaff, 93, of 3412 Lindavista Way, died of a respiratory ailment Thursday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.



Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. Monday at Resthaven Mausoleum.

Mrs. Graaff was born in Alton, Minn., and had lived in Des Moines about

60 years. She was a retired teacher in the Des Moines public schools. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and P.E.O.

Survivors include a son, John of Colorado Springs, Colo.; a daughter, Susan Jensen of Des Moines; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. 12-18-94

12/17/94

John B. Miller, 85, of Sun City, Ariz., died of a respiratory ailment there Dec. 3. Services will be at



2 p.m. Dec. 27 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, with private burial of the remains in Resthaven Cemetery.

Dr. Miller was a podiatrist in

Des Moines 43 years before moving to Arizona in 1976. He was a member of Boy Scouts of America and Men's Garden Club of America.

Surviving are his wife, Marjorie; a daughter, Sue Grimes of Des Moines; two sons, Clark of Minneapolis and Edwin of Stillwater, Okla.; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church. Menke Funeral Home in Sun City handled arrangements.

12/17/94

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. — Plymouth Motet Choir Christmas concert with Eugenia Zukerman, flute, and Yolanda Kondonassis, harp, 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$10 and \$15, with a \$5 student discount.

Zukerman-Kondonassis — Flutist Eugenia Zukerman and harpist Yolanda Kondonassis will play a Christmas concert with the Plymouth Motet Choir at 3 p.m. today in Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Tickets cost \$15 for forward seating, \$10 for

general admission and \$5 for students. The program is part of the Plymouth Fine Arts Series.

12/18/94

12-15-94

'Hunger Banquet' set for tonight at Plymouth

A "hunger banquet" aimed at demonstrating the uneven living conditions around the world will be held at 7 p.m. today at Plymouth Congregational Church, 42nd Street and Ingersoll Avenue.

Banquet guests will be randomly divided into four groups, representing the four general living conditions faced by people around the world.

The "lowest" group will receive a meal of rice and water. The second group will get a slightly better meal of rice and beans. The third group, which is roughly equivalent with middle-class American lifestyles, will receive a spaghetti meal. And the fourth group, representing about 2 percent of the world's population, will receive a full meal, complete with soup and salad.

The banquet is open to the public, and a \$3 donation is suggested. The event is sponsored by Roosevelt Students for Environmental Action.

11-194

Philanthropist Helen Urban dies at age 85

Des Moines philanthropist Helen J. Urban, 85, died of a stroke Monday in Bellevue, Wash. The body was cremated and memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Nov. 26 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines.

Mrs. Urban, who lived at 3524 Grand Ave., was born in Hastings, Neb., and lived in Des Moines much



Urban
Active

of her life. Her late husband, Nelson, was instrumental in the early development and growth of Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc. She was a longtime supporter of Planned Parenthood and the Young Women's Resource Center, was a former trustee of the Des Moines Art Center and had been active in the League of Women Voters.

She supported passage of the Equal Rights Amendment when it came for a vote in Iowa in 1992 and was a major financial contributor to the cause.

Surviving are a daughter, Susan Horsey of Gladwyne, Pa.; four sons: Thomas Jr., chairman of Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc. and a former Des Moines mayor; Timothy, a former Des Moines city councilman; Theodore of Orinda, Calif., and David of Bellevue; 15 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa, the Young Women's Resource Center or the Des Moines Art Center.

Green Funeral Home Sunset Hills Chapel in Bellevue is handling arrangements.

11-2-94

Edwin M. Kingery, 93, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of a heart attack Monday at his doctor's office. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. Private entombment will be in Resthaven Mausoleum.



Mr. Kingery was born in Orient and lived in Des Moines most of his life. He retired after 41 years as executive secretary of the Polk County Medical Society and was a member of the Greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce Federation and several professional and Masonic organizations.

He is survived by two sons, William of Des Moines and Jack of Littleton, Colo.; a sister, Marion Crum of Wilmington, Del.; and six grandchildren.

Friends may call from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Merle Hay Funeral Home, where the family will greet friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to his church or Grinnell College scholastic fund.

11-6-94

Edwin R. Brock, 83, of Dubuque died of a heart attack Friday at home. Services will be at 2 p.m. today at Luther Manor in Dubuque, where he had been a resident, and at 2 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines, of which he was a member.



The body will be cremated.

Mr. Brock was born in Grinnell and lived in Des Moines until moving to Dubuque in 1985. He was a deacon and a trustee at his church, president of the Des Moines Associated Life Underwriters and a member of the board of directors of the YMCA Boys' Home. Before retirement he was employed by Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Survivors include his wife, Sue; two sons, Robert of Davenport and James of Dubuque; two daughters, Betty Guenther of Okemos, Mich., and Nancy Wojcik of Omaha, Neb.; 11 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

No visitation is planned. Memorials may be made to the Des Moines YMCA Boys' Camp or Luther Manor.

11/11/94 ALM

OBITU

Delores E. Kennedy, 70, of 4035 E. University Ave. died of complications of a stroke Friday at Iowa



Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. The body will be cremated.

Mrs. Kennedy was born in Mankato, Minn., and had lived in Des Moines since 1957. She retired from Kennedy & Co. and was a member of the Hawkeye Bridge Association.

Survivors include her husband, James; two sons, Mark of Des Moines and James L. of Philadelphia; a daughter, Michelle Loveland of Springfield, Mo.; two sisters, Ione Larsen of Alcester, S.D., and Marjorie Opheim of Bloomington, Minn.; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Friends may call after 3 p.m. today and all day Monday at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 5 to 7 p.m. both days. Memorial contributions may be made to her church's foundation.

10/17/94

Ruby Jones Pinkerton, 94, of Iowa Jewish Senior Life Center, 900 Polk Blvd., died of a heart ailment there Monday.



Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Lane chapel of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, with entombment of the remains in Rest-

haven Mausoleum.

Mrs. Pinkerton was born in Winnetoon, Neb., and lived in Kirkwood, Mo., before moving to the care center seven years ago. She formerly taught in Kirkwood public schools and was a member of PEO chapter GT.

Surviving are a daughter, Sally Dickinson of West Des Moines; a grandchild; and a great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to Grace Episcopal Church endowment fund in Kirkwood. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

8/2/94
Michael Current, 31, of 737 18th St., a gay-rights advocate and co-founder of the Gay and Lesbian Democratic Caucus, died July 21 at home of complications of diabetes. A memorial service has been scheduled for 6 p.m. today at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

8/16/94
Lillian Getty Bridges, 96, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of a circulatory ailment there Saturday. Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with private burial at Masonic Cemetery.



Mrs. Bridges was born in Boone and had lived in Des Moines most of her life. She was a homemaker and a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, the Raymond Blank Hospital Guild at Iowa Methodist Medical Center, chapter HE of P.E.O., Order of the Eastern Star and the Questers.

Survivors include a son, Robert of Des Moines; a daughter, Elizabeth Sass of Toronto, Ontario; three sisters, Mary Jean Dolphin of Hampton, Nettie Owens of Sea Girt, N.J., and Mildred McNeil of Williamsport, Pa.; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Raymond Blank Hospital Guild at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

45.

8/25/94
Philip H. Dorff Sr., 85, of 2880 Grand Ave. died of a heart ailment Tuesday at home. The body was cremated and private services will be Saturday.

Mr. Dorff was born in Cologne, Germany, and lived in Chicago for 18 years before moving to Des Moines in 1945. He retired after 23 years as owner of the Cloud Room restaurant at the Des Moines airport. He was an Army veteran of World War II and a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and Service Corporation of Retired Executives.

Among survivors are three sons, Philip Jr. of Urbandale, David of Des Moines and Robert of Carlisle, Pa.; and seven grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Drake University. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Margaret Ann Maxwell, 57, of 1821 Park Ave. died of cancer Friday at Hospice Kavanagh House.



Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial will be in Glendale Cemetery.

Mrs. Maxwell was born in Des Moines and returned in 1988 after 11 years in Ames. She was a homemaker and member of Junior League, Daughters of the American Revolution and Rotary International.

Surviving are her husband, Virgil; a daughter, Pamela Baumgartner of Urbandale; two sons, Todd of Urbandale and Scott of Scottsdale, Ariz.; and five grandchildren.

Friends may call from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Society for Supranuclear Palsy in Scotch Plains, N.J., or to her church.

9-4-94
Ruth S. Hewitt, 90, of Urbandale Health Care Center, 4614 N.W. 84th St., died of a heart ailment Thursday at Iowa Lutheran Hospital. Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday in Clío.



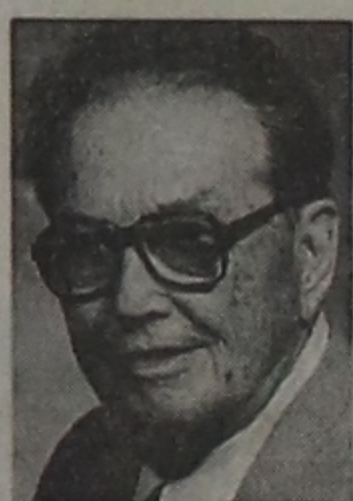
Mrs. Hewitt was born in Lineville and had lived in Des Moines since 1924. She was a retired bookkeeper for Younkers department store and had been co-owner of Walnut Tire and Battery. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church.

Survivors include her husband, Don R. of Urbandale; a stepson, Don J. of Panora; three stepdaughters, Marcia Coughenower of Des Moines, Carol Lamberti of Panora and Sandra Knapp of Indianapolis; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

OBITUARIES

Marzee M. Laing, 89, of 4610 Douglas Ave. died of a heart ailment Monday at Iowa Lutheran Hospital.



A memorial service will be at 3 p.m. Thursday at Westover Funeral Home, with private burial of the cremains at a later date.

Dr. Laing was born in Independence, Kan., and lived in Des Moines most of his life. He retired as a dentist in private practice, was a Navy veteran of World War II and had been a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Masonic Lodge, Za-Ga-Zig Shrine and American and Iowa Dental associations.

Surviving are his wife, Lillian; two daughters, Sherry Ann Fuhlrodt of and Suzann Goettsch, both of Des Moines; two brothers, Kermit of Chariton and T.J. of Des Moines; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shriners Crippled Children Hospitals.

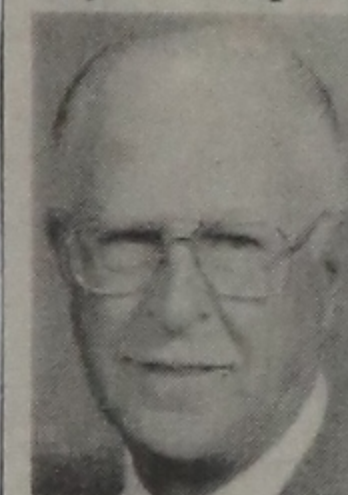
Sally Gibson, 96, of Red Wing, Minn., died of a lung ailment Monday at Seminary Home in Red Wing. Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Highland Park Christian Church, of which she was a member. Private burial will be in Pine Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Gibson was born in Athelston and moved to Red Wing in 1992 after 70 years in Des Moines. She had been director of a nursery school at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines for 17 years and was past president of the Des Moines Council Parent-Teacher Association.

Surviving are a daughter, Louise Rayner of Red Wing; 10 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church's education department. Westover Funeral Home in Des Moines is handling arrangements.

Philip L. Geisse, 81, of 2110 62nd St. died of pancreatic cancer Saturday at Hospice Kavanagh House.



Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Westover Funeral Home. Burial will be at Resthaven Cemetery.

Mr. Geisse was born in Minneapolis and had lived in Des Moines most of his life. He was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church and the Masonic Lodge and was a retired printer at Meredith Publishing Co.

Survivors include his wife, Mary; two sons, Don of Des Moines and Bill of West Linn, Ore.; a daughter, Martha Rooney of Stillwater, Minn.; a brother, Leo Sarcone of Des Moines; two sisters, Marie Scarborough of St. Michaels, Md., and Natalie Jones of San Francisco; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Friends may call from 2 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home, where the family will be present from 7 to 9 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association or Hospice of Central Iowa.

MUSIC

Stewart's dream: 'AmericaFest'

Famous youth choirs will sing here Thursday as part of a multicultural traveling choral festival.

By MELINDA VOSS
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

For years, Carol Stewart, a widely known Des Moines choir director, has believed powerful music can act as an agent for peace.

On Thursday at 8 p.m., her belief will become reality in Des Moines.

Three world-recognized youth choirs will perform at the Des Moines Civic Center as part of a six-city tour of "AmericaFest: International Festival of Young Singers," a multicultural traveling choral festival.

The festival is Stewart's brainchild. "Good political decisions, good economic decisions are based ultimately on friendship and understanding, and I don't know anything that can do that better than the arts," said Stewart, who founded the Alliance for Arts and Understanding in 1993.

The tour features the Efroni Choir from Tel Aviv, Israel; the Shchedryk (pronounced Shed-dreek) Choir from Kiev, Ukraine, and the Seattle Girls' Choir from the state of Washington.

"It's going to be a fun concert to see and hear. It is sometimes serious and sometimes not too serious. I believe anybody who loves music should certainly love to hear this. It's very special and unique to have them here at the same time," she said.

Participating Choirs

Here is a rundown on the choirs.

• **The Efroni Choir** features 35 girls, aged 12 to 18. Regarded as the finest choral group in Israel, the Efroni Choir has received numerous international honors. Its members come from many agricultural villages and meet once a week for rehearsal under the direction of founder and conductor Maya Shavit.

• **The Shchedryk Choir** was founded by Iryna Sablina, the current artistic director. This choir of 35 boys and girls, performed for the American Nobel Peace Prize Symposium at Concordia College. In 1990, the choir received first place among children's choirs at the Kathaumixw Festival and then went on to win the Grand Prize by triumphing over 38 adult, professional and youth choirs.

• **The Seattle Girls' Choir** was founded in 1982 by Jerome Wright, the current artistic director. The choir is drawn from the Seattle Girls' Choir School of about 200 singers aged 6 to 18. In its 12-year history, the group has won first prize at the Vienna Youth and Music Festival, the International Choral Kathaumixw in Powell River, British Columbia, and the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales.

The three choirs will perform more than 20 selections from Bach, Brahms and Grieg to traditional folk music from Israel, Ukraine and the United States. Colorful ethnic costumes, a variety of folk dancing and dramatic lighting are designed to enhance the

multicultural musical experience.

All the choirs — 91 voices — will combine for a grand finale, performing the ancient "Prayer for World Peace, Shalom," the traditional Jewish greeting and farewell and a world premiere performance of Kobi Oshrat's "The Paintbox."

Written in 1973 by a 12-year-old Israeli girl, Tali Sorek, "The Paintbox" was the winning entry in a peace poetry contest for children. The poem has been set to music by Kobi Oshrat, an Israeli-born composer who gained international fame in 1979 as the winner of the Eurovision Song Contest.

The arrangement for "The Paintbox" was done by Ben Alloway, choir master of St. Paul's Cathedral in Des Moines.

Tickets range from \$8 to \$12. For information, call Ticketmaster at (515) 243-1888.

In addition to Des Moines, the choirs will perform in Minneapolis-St. Paul (today through Wednesday), Chicago (July 16-18), Grand Rapids, Mich. (July 19), Owen Sound, Ontario (July 20-21) and Toronto, Ontario (July 22).

Workshops, Retreats

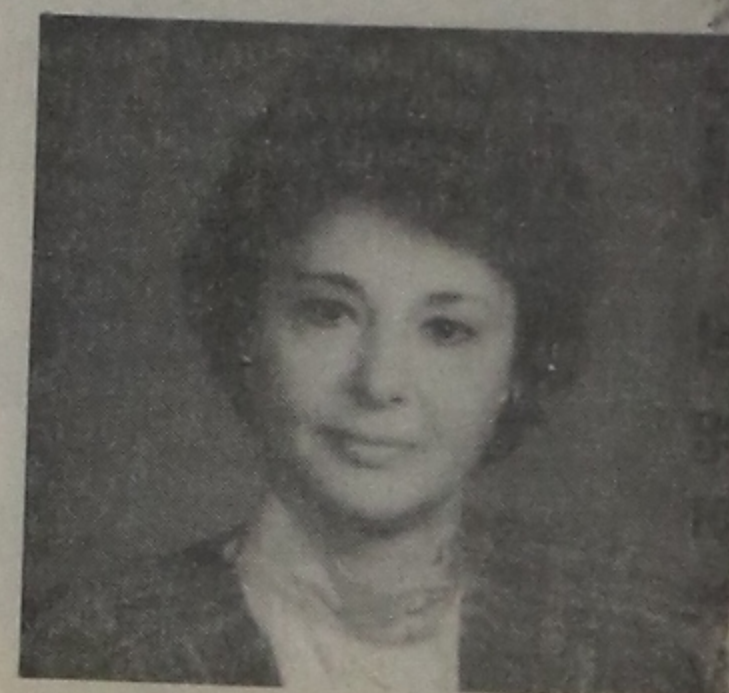
The festival also features workshops on choral music and retreats to promote understanding. Fifty young people from Des Moines have been invited to participate in a Retreat for Friendship and Understanding on Friday. The workshop will be led by Anita Micich, of youth ministries at Plymouth Congregational Church.

Stewart declined to say how much the festival is costing, but she said: "You can imagine the costs of overseas airline tickets and chartering three buses for 10 days to drive around the upper Midwest."

Three Des Moines groups will be hosting the festival's participants. They are: the B'Nai Beshurun congregation, the Des Moines Children's Choruses, Inc., and the Plymouth Congregational Youth Choir Program.

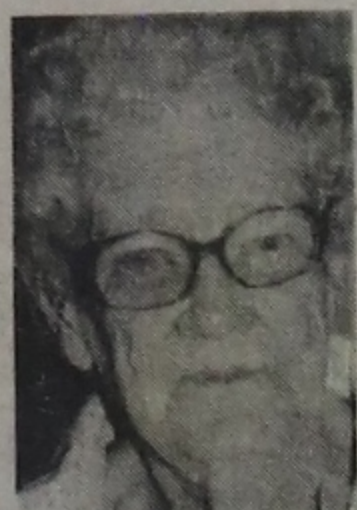
The Overland Gallery of Fine Arts in Wayzata, Minn., also plans to present a "Ukrainian Arts Festival" this week in conjunction with the choir festival. The arts festival marks the first time that newly discovered Ukrainian paintings will be exhibited outside the former Soviet Union.

Stewart said she hopes at least 1,500 people will attend the Des Moines performance. "From start to finish, we're trying to do this with real attention and care," she said.



Carol Stewart
"Real attention and care"

Genevieve O. Gould, 95, died of heart failure Sunday at Bishop Drumm Care Center, 5837 Winwood



Drive, Johnston, where she had resided for three years. Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Westover Funeral Home, with burial at the Ottumwa Cemetery. 6/27/94

Mrs. Gould was born in Ottumwa and had lived in the Des Moines area since 1946. Before retirement in 1967, she worked at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Des Moines. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, the American Legion Auxiliary, and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Survivors include her son, William Gould of Des Moines; her daughter, Jean Itlis of Norwalk; seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Friends may call on the family from 5 to 7 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Bishop Drumm Care Center.

6/28/94

Richard T. "Moe" Hull, 68, of 2450 S.W. Ninth St. died of a heart attack Sunday at Des Moines General Hospital. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Southtown Funeral Home, with burial at Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery. The body has been cremated.



Mr. Hull was born in Moline, Ill., and had lived in Des Moines most of his life. He was a retired supervisor for Del Webb Co., a member of Plymouth Congregational Church and a Coast Guard veteran of World War II.

Survivors include three daughters, Stacy Brenton of Dallas Center, Holly Craiger of Fairfield, Conn., and Carey Witmer of Evanston, Ill.; two brothers, Robert of Des Moines and Tom of Shawnee, Kans.; and six grandchildren.

Friends may call from 6 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home, where the family will be present. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lincoln High School Athletic Department.

Irene M. Souder, 91, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of complications of pneumonia



Wednesday at Des Moines General Hospital. The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Westover Funeral Home. Private burial of the remains will be at Masonic Cemetery at a later date.

Miss Souder was born in Houghton, Mich., and had lived in Des Moines since 1966. She was a retired librarian and also had taught physical education. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church.

A niece and a nephew survive.

Memorial contributions may be made to Special Olympics. 4/10/94

Ruth H. Decker, 89, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of leukemia Sunday at home. The



body has been cremated and private graveside services will be in Glendale Cemetery.

Mrs. Decker, a former elementary teacher, was born in Wesley and moved to Des Moines in 1935 from Van Meter and Rockwell City. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, PEO chapter HM, Iowa Lutheran Hospital Auxiliary and Mercy and Blank Children's hospital guilds.

A nephew and seven nieces survive.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central Iowa or the American Cancer Society. Dunn's Funeral Home handled arrangements. 4/5/94

5-1-94
Luella M. Woodburn, 71, of 5108 Harwood Drive died of cancer Friday at home. The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. Private burial of the remains will be at Resthaven Cemetery in West Des Moines.



Mrs. Woodburn was born in Vilisca and had lived in Des Moines since 1952. She was a homemaker and a member of the University of Iowa Foundation and Chapter GU of P.E.O.

Survivors include her husband, Chester; a son, Chester III of Des Moines; three daughters, Linda Craig of West Des Moines, Stephanie Hill of Pinehurst, N.C., and Deborah Mott of Rockingham, N.C.; two brothers, John Swanson of Red Oak and William Swanson of Hyannis Port, Mass.; a sister, Ruth Schneider of Stanford, Calif.; and seven grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central Iowa. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

Susan Lynn Lee, 41, of 2208 55th St. died of cancer Friday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 3:30 p.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. Burial of the remains will be at Glendale Cemetery.



Mrs. Lee was born in Lafayette, Ind., and had lived in Des Moines 10 years. She was a math teacher for the Bondurant-Farrar schools, a math lab supervisor at Drake University and a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and Des Moines Talented and Gifted.

Surviving are her husband, Don; two sons, Phillip and Eric, both of Des Moines; her parents, James and Mary Ann Miller of Idaville, Ind.; two sisters, Carrie Miller of West Lafayette, Ind., and Julia Moore of Idaville; and two brothers, James Miller of West Lafayette and Michael Lamb of Buda, Texas.

Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home. 4/24/94

Retired florist Lozier dies 5/21/94

Richard W. Lozier, 78, a retired florist and former president of the Des Moines school board, died of complications of pneumonia Thursday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.



Burial will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Resthaven Cemetery in West Des Moines. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which

he was a member.

Mr. Lozier, who lived at 2000 Willowmere Drive, was a lifelong Des Moines resident. He was the retired owner of Lozier Florist and served on the school board in the 1960s. He was an Army veteran of World War II and a former president of the Des Moines Rotary Club and had served on the boards of the YMCA, Iowa State Bank and United Federal Savings Bank.

Survivors include his wife, Arline; three sons, Richard, Charles and William, all of Des Moines; a stepson, Judson Maher of Salt Lake City; two daughters, Carolyn Huff of Iowa City and Mary Ann Moore of Tallahassee, Fla.; two stepdaughters, Nardi Jones of Des Moines and Judith Bailey of San Diego, Calif.; a sister, Jean McGuire of Cupertino, Calif.; 15 grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

Friends may call after 11 a.m. today Hamilton's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday. Memorial contributions may be made to the Des Moines YMCA Camp or his church.

Richard W. Lozier, 78, a retired florist and former president of the Des Moines school board, died of complications of pneumonia Thursday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. A private burial will be at 10 a.m. today at Resthaven Cemetery in West Des Moines. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. today at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. A previous obituary listed incorrect information about the services.

Suzanne Denny, 72, of 951 58th St. died of emphysema Friday at Mercy Hospital Medical Center.



Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at Resthaven Cemetery in West Des Moines.

Mrs. Denny was born in Des

Moines and had lived here all her life. She was a homemaker and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, P.E.O. chapter HF, Questers, and American Home Club.

She is survived by her husband, Ralph; a son, Craig of Lenexa, Kan.; a daughter, Marcia Freese of Des Moines; and a sister, Francine Hunter of Raleigh, N.C.

The family will receive friends from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association. 4/24/94

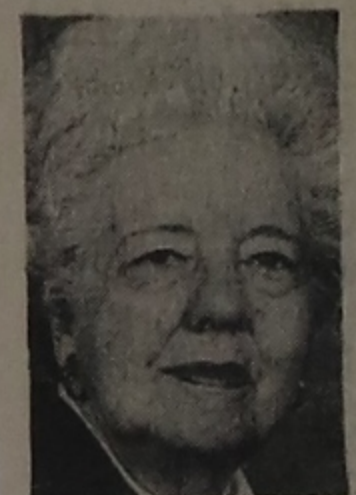
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

■ The annual Earl M. Willits workshop at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., will be from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. April 16. "Coming Out With Dignity and Strength: A Workshop for Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays" includes presentations and workshops that deal with the "coming out" process, "picking up the pieces" after a loved one comes out, healing, and dealing with Scripture. Presenters include Karen Phillips Schmid, educational coordinator of the Story County AIDS Project; Pat Peterson, educator and consultant for human sexuality issues; and the Rev. Charles Briem, associate conference minister of the Iowa Conference of the United Church of Christ. Cost of \$5 includes lunch.

■ Plymouth Congregational United

Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., will present "A Celebration of English Sacred Music" at 3 p.m. Sunday. The free program will feature organist Carl Gravander and the Plymouth Motet Choir, under the direction of Janet Davis. 5/21/94

4-1994
Dorothy A. Martin, 91, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of a heart ailment there Saturday.



The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 2 p.m. today at the Scottish Rite Park Penthouse. Burial of the remains will be at Glendale Cemetery.

Mrs. Martin was born in Omaha and had lived in Des Moines most of her life. She was a homemaker and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, the Des Moines Club, Wakonda Club, Junior League of Des Moines, Civic Music Association, Comment Club and the Fortnightly Music Club.

A sister, Gertrude Myrah of Madison, Wis., survives.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Des Moines Symphony. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

4/20/94

AN ABUNDANCE OF KIWANIS MEMORABILIA

Personal museum has unique artifacts

Merle Trickey has been summoned to talk about the Kiwanis Club.

He has had perfect attendance at weekly club meetings for 62 years. Of the 20 organizations to which he belongs, the Kiwanis is the most important to him — after his church — and he'll get to that in a minute; but first, he wants to show you his apartment.

He has an efficiency at Mercy Court. He swings open the door, and the walls are covered, floor to ceiling, with keepsakes from his 88 years. "How do you like this?" he asks.

His apartment is sort of the Mercy Court museum. When other residents have guests, they bring them over, and Trickey shows them around.

"There's my spoon collection," he says. Sixteen spoons are displayed in a rack by the kitchen sink. "I've got more," he says. But spoons are the least impressive artifacts. Trickey has 365 caps and a bell collection that includes cowbells, worship bells, sleigh bells, antique bells, a town crier's bell and an air raid patrol bell from London.

He has the tiny Bible that his great-grandmother won for perfect attendance at Sunday school when she was a child in England. A curry comb, husking glove and gopher trap remind him of his childhood in Hardin County, and earning money for Road Drag Day on the Fourth of July. His father gave him 10 cents for every gopher he caught; and

the county paid another 10 cents. Many years, he earned \$5 or more.

On display is the gold watch his father gave him for refraining from smoking before he graduated from high school. He never did take up the habit and figures the money he saved allowed him to buy 16 new automobiles and travel three quarters of the way around the world.

Scattered among the souvenirs is Kiwanis memorabilia — name tags from international conventions in Minneapolis, Houston, St. Louis and Des Moines; the bell he received when he was president of the club in Aberdeen, S.D., in 1934; a certificate he earned two years ago, after 60 years of perfect attendance. He has attended meetings in Italy, Austria and Switzerland.

Trickey joined the Kiwanis in 1932, after a fellow college professor invited him to a meeting. Trickey was the commercial department head at Northern State Teachers College in Aberdeen and taught 20 business courses. He has bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Iowa.

Helping him maintain his attendance record is the Kiwanis rule that allows members to attend a meeting of another club if they miss their own. Trickey belongs to the Downtown Des Moines Kiwanis Club, which celebrates its 75th anniversary today. Ian Perdriau of Australia, the Kiwanis' international president-elect, will speak.

Trickey, who has been a Shriner for 50 years, has belonged to the Toastmasters for five years and to the Izaak Walton League for 60.

He is proudest of his affiliation with the Congregational Church. "I haven't missed a Sunday in 88 years," he said. He missed only when he was ill. "I'm going to have to send this to the book of Guinness."

CITY SIDE



Mary Ann LICKTEIG



BOB MODERSOHN/THE REGISTER

Merle Trickey, who attended every Kiwanis meeting in 62 years as a member, holds a bell given to him by the group in 1934.

A TIME OF REBIRTH

Easter '94 has special meaning: A first service, a final sermon

An important day on the Christian calendar is a time of hope and reflection.

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

Pastors found Easter meanings this week in beginnings, endings and the continuing power of this most important Christian holy day.

The Rev. Michael Householder, 29, and his flock at the Lutheran Church of Hope, looked ahead with excitement. A 7 a.m. sunrise service will be the first worship in their still-unfinished church at 6820 Ashworth Road in West Des Moines. It is one of the many new congregations spring-



Gilliom
Memories



Lumbard
"Literalist"

ing up in the western suburbs.

The Rev. James O. Gilliom, 65, looked back with gratitude and acknowledged a plethora of emotions as he prepared for his final Easter before retirement this month as senior pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

For the Rev. Del Lumbard, it's a case of a pastor who keeps on keeping on as he marks his 21st Easter in the pulpit of Calvary Church of the Open Bible, 555 Euclid Ave. The Easter flame burns brightly to him.

"New Life"

After the sunrise service, the Church of Hope congregation will head back to Living History Farms where the members have been worshipping while the first phase of their church is being built. But they were determined to have an Easter service in the new building, Householder said.

"New life comes with Easter," Householder said. "Being in a new setting where we will worship for years to come is very significant. It represents new life for us, too. It is important for us to be in the church on Easter, if only for one service."

Lutheran Church of Hope started from scratch in June 1991. When Householder became pastor last June, the church had 39 charter members and attendance averaged about 15. In 10 months, membership has increased to 146. Attendance — with visitors every week — averages 150. It has been tabbed the fastest-growing Lutheran church in Iowa. The church will add a second morning service next week.

Householder said the church is committed to reaching out to unchurched people with a message that centers on the Easter message of a living Christ who wants to draw people to himself.

Meanwhile, Gilliom acknowledged, "My soul is swimming with different thoughts" as he approaches his last Easter service before retirement. Looking back, especially over his 17 years at Plym-

outh, thoughts contained Easter themes.

"I think of all the people who have experienced recovery in their lives after being in places from which they thought they couldn't recover, but have," he said. "That is personal resurrection."

He said Plymouth members have supplied leadership at an amazing level to deal with community issues and causes. "They have refused to be daunted by challenges," he said. "There has been an extraordinary reaching out to all kinds of people and a growing inclusiveness at Plymouth. That is a communal resurrection. Easter says that we can't begin to realize what is possible when people work together in love."

"As I look back, I see people looking forward. They live with hope. They overcome old fears, doubts, prejudices and biases."

Pastors, like the rest of us, may have special memories — painful or joyous — about one particular Easter. For Gilliom it was in his childhood. His 5-year-old sister died from a ruptured appendix on Easter Sunday.

"My Dad was so distraught that he tried to throw himself into the open grave. He was a whistler, but he stopped whistling. I remember the day in the fall when we heard him whistling 'The Whistler and His Dog,' his favorite tune. Easter came very late that year, but it did come. Recovery is the meaning of Easter."

Excitement

Lumbard, the Open Bible veteran, shares the excitement pastors have about Easter in church.

"Everything we do, believe and look forward to culminates in Easter," Lumbard said. "Everything all year builds toward Easter. Our whole faith centers on it."

Sunrise services have been a highlight for him through the years. "We've had sunrise services in the rain and the storms, on hillsides and indoors, in the dark and in the light. There have been times when nothing seemed to go right. But those sunrise services always stand out as the most significant events."

Lumbard made clear he has no interest in any theological debate over the physical resurrection as told in the New Testament Gospels or a more symbolic interpretation.

"I am a literalist," he declared. "I don't give any time to that kind of thought. It is not even a factor." He said Easter "is a story of the completed work" Jesus set out to do. "It is a great window of opportunity" to spread the Christian message.

Area Lenten services 3/12/94

Special Lenten services through next Saturday include:

Collegiate Presbyterian Church, Ames — Mark Koskamp of Trinity Presbyterian in Indianola will present next week's one-half hour of meditation music starting at 12:10 p.m. Wednesday.

First Baptist Church, 620 Eighth St. — Chancel Choir will perform "The Lamentations of Mary Magdalene" at 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 511 Des Moines St. — Capitol Hill Lutheran Parish Lenten worship, noon and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, with lunch at 12:30 p.m. and soup supper at 5:30 p.m.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 5625 Franklin Ave. — Lenten service "Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread," 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. — Lenten chapel program at 7 a.m. Tuesday, followed by breakfast at 7:20 a.m. Speaker will be Anna Roberts Smith, senior field representative for Bureau of Community Financing of the Iowa Department of Economic Development. Cost for the breakfast is \$3.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5720 Urban-dale Ave. — Phyllis Rattray, director of West Des Moines Human Services, will speak at the 6 p.m. Lenten Servant Ministry series Sunday, following a 5 p.m. potluck meal.

St. John's Lutheran Church, 601 Keosauqua Way — Community leaders present the 12:05 p.m. Wednesday Lenten messages each week through March 30. This week the Rev. Timothy C. Diebel of First Christian Church will be the guest. Lunches will be available from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in Weertz Hall. There will also be a 5:30 p.m. chapel service led by Karin Ogden.

BRIEFLY IN RELIGION

4/9/94 Plymouth church's Gilliom hands over his duties Sunday

Sunday has been designated "A Day of Endings and Beginnings" at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Activities will mark the retirement of the Rev. James O. Gilliom after 17 years as senior pastor at the 3,000-member church and the start of the Rev. David Ruhe's tenure.

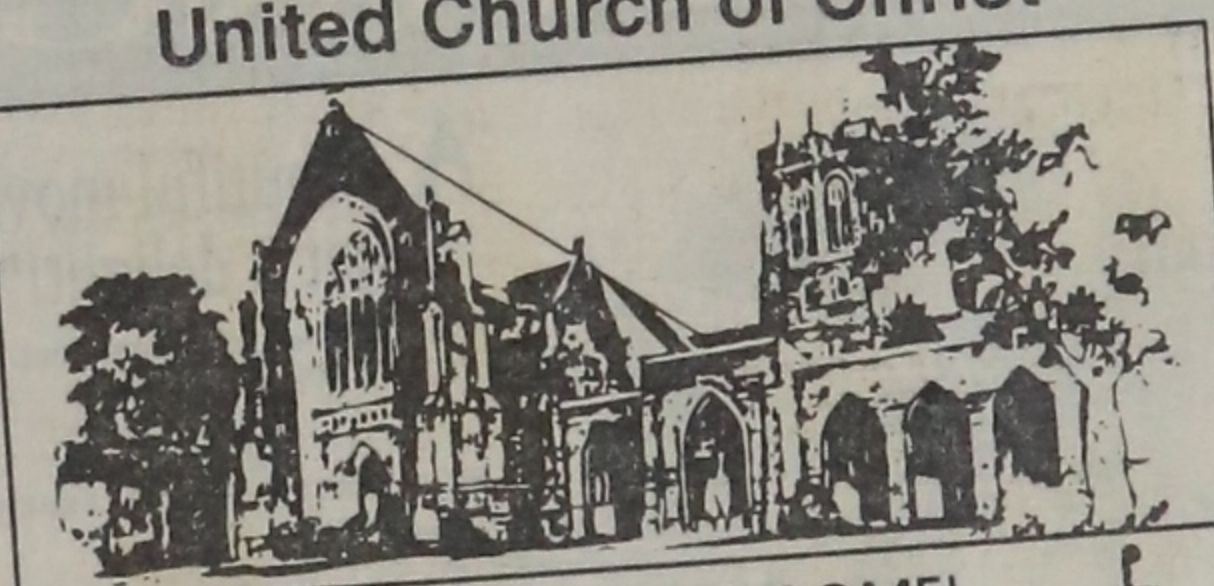
Farewell receptions for James and Donna Gilliom will be held at 8:15 a.m., noon and 4 p.m. Gilliom and Ruhe, an Omaha pastor chosen after a national search, will share the sermon in the 9 and 11 a.m. worship services. At the close of the services, Gilliom will remove his clergy stole — symbol of the pastoral office — and place it on Ruhe's shoulders. A 3 p.m. Fine Arts Series free concert will feature Gilliom's favorite music.

Plymouth has gained national attention for its steady growth in a time when liberal mainline churches are shrinking. It has also gained national notice for the non-traditional way the church has handled the pastoral transition. Instead of the usual long interim between pastors, at Gilliom's urging the selection process went on during his final year. Ruhe joined the staff four weeks ago. He assisted in worship on Easter, will share the services Sunday and will step into his senior pastor role next week.

EASTER

at

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL
United Church of Christ



EVERYBODY WELCOME! 

6:30 A.M. SUNRISE SERVICE

- ★ Matins youth choir
- ★ Led by Plymouth youth
- ★ Sermon by Dr. David R. Ruhe

9:00 & 11:00 A.M. FESTIVAL WORSHIP SERVICES

- ★ Matins choirs and brass (9:00)
- ★ Chancel choir and brass (11:00)
- ★ Sermon by Dr. James O. Gilliom
- ★ No church school. Preschool childcare.

7:15-10:30 A.M. EASTER BREAKFAST AT THE CHURCH

4126 Ingersoll

(just 2 blocks South of
42nd Street Freeway Exit)

255-3149

When Love Meets Tradition

The Struggles of Interfaith Marriages

I used to get together for lunch every few months with a school acquaintance. At our last lunch, after the niceties were out of the way, I asked Mary* about her love life.

"We're so in love," she said, "We're talking about marriage."

Mary met David two years ago in her graduate school finance class. I had never met him, but I knew he was intelligent, thoughtful, enjoyed sports and theater; he was basically perfect. But Mary didn't seem as excited as I was for her about the prospect of marriage.

"David's ... significantly older than me," Mary said. "Ten years older."

"So what?" I said. "My dad is almost 11 years older than my mom. If you love him and you've talked about it, you'll be fine."

"He's divorced," she said.

"A lot of people are," I said. "As long as you've talked about it and you're comfortable with it, you'll be fine. What's the real problem?"

"He's Jewish and I'm Catholic," she said.

"Well, you do have a problem."

'90s Norm

Interfaith, or interchurch, marriages are those in which the spouses come from different faiths. With young adults having been raised in a society that preaches diversity and with opportunities to meet people from different faiths through school, work and community activities, the high incidence of interfaith marriage is no surprise.

"Forty or 50 years ago, intermarriage with a Jew was a non-issue due to anti-Semitism in our country," said Rabbi Steven Fink of Temple B'Nai Jeshurun. "People today are much more accepting. Even Caroline Kennedy is married to a Jewish man."

Fink said nationally, 52 percent of all

Jewish marriages involve a non-Jewish spouse. He feels statistics locally are higher. "On the one hand, acceptance in society is what we've been working to achieve for so many years," he said. "On the other hand, intermarriage makes it increasingly difficult to sustain Judaism, which is more than a religion; it's a culture."

In the 1970s, a television situation comedy, "Bridget Loves Bernie," addressed interfaith marriage. It was a portrayal in which, given the medium, any religious disagreement was happily resolved in 30 minutes, including commercials. In reality, love doesn't conquer all. Steven Carr Reuben, in his 1987 book, "But How Will You Raise the Children?," claims that interfaith marriages fail at a rate six times that of same-faith marriages.

Knowing What You Believe

John Palmer, senior pastor at First Assembly of God Church, said a personal relationship with Christ is the only relevant religious issue in marriage. "In 2 Corinthians 6:14-16, Paul writes that believers and unbelievers should not be yoked together in marriage because they lack the commonality of a bond in Jesus Christ," he said. "The Old Testament book of Amos has a similar passage: 'Can two walk together unless they're agreed?'"

David Ruhe, senior pastor at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, said religious faith in marriage functions in one of three ways: as a strong bond of commonality, as an unending source of tension or as a matter of indifference. The goal of churches is to help the couple build a strong bond, which doesn't necessarily mean one religion for the couple, but a mutual respect for both faiths.

It can be easy for the interfaith couple to rationally decide the practical issues, such as which holidays to celebrate and where. What they ignore, out of fear of argument or breakup, are the deeper aspects of religion: What is each individual's beliefs and the role of religion in his or her life?

Reuben wrote of a Jewish man who felt his Christian fiancée was naive and childish in her belief of Jesus as the Messiah. Reuben helped the couple address unacknowledged fears and stereotypes, using the following series of questions:

1. What is the most important part of your religion to you?
2. When you hear the word Jew/Catholic/Lutheran/etc., what do you think of?
3. What are you most afraid of about marrying a Jew/Catholic/Lutheran/etc.?
4. How would you feel if your children weren't raised in your religion?
5. What is your favorite holiday and why?
6. What do you like least about his/her religion?



▲ Rather than addressing faith differences, couples sometimes compromise, picking a faith whose minister received a mail-order degree.

Even those who claim to be non-practicing or indifferent to religion show the lingering effects of the religions in which they were raised. Values, perceptions of others, responses to world and local news, political viewpoints, stances on birth control and abortion, sense of obligation to family, partaking in alcoholic beverages, even views on professions (the stereotype that one doctor is better than another simply because he is Jewish) are colored by an individual's religious upbringing.

"For the partner active in his or her religion, the lapsed partner's sudden allegiance to a religion — the idea that, if I ever do get back to God it will be through Catholicism, for example — seems very unfair," Ruhe said. "That's why it's so important for each person to question and understand their basic convictions."

Communication is Key

In every faith, religious teachers stress communication and respect for your partner's commitment to his or her religion. Even the Roman Catholic Church, which used to refer to interfaith marriages as mixed marriages and required the Catholic spouse to raise any children as Catholics, has relaxed its stance.

"We call them ecumenical couples, a reference to the Catholic Church's vision of a unified Christian church," said Jean Klute, director of the Catholic Diocese of Des Moines' Department of Family Life. "We have an implicit understanding that the Catholic is not to interfere with the non-Catholic's religious practices, but to learn about and respect that religion. Converting

for the sake of a marriage instead of converting for a deeply held spiritual belief is never right."

Most churches have premarital courses that allow couples to explore their beliefs. Elton Richards, senior pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church, said it's important for couples to take this opportunity to affirm their faith, recognizing the meanings their traditions' passages and rites have for them.

Lois Fingerman, a counselor and a member of Temple B'Nai Jeshurun, leads Balancing Act, the Jewish Federation's intensive eight-week course for interfaith couples. Fingerman said she speaks from experience; two of her daughters are in interfaith marriages.

"This is not marital counseling nor is it an attempt to convert anyone," she said. Participating couples have come from all stages of relationships: married with children, newlyweds, newly engaged and even "dating but not yet sure they like each other well enough to get married."

The approximately 10 couples in each session shape the curriculum. At the first meeting, the participants write down their concerns and what they want to learn about their partner's religion.

"One of the biggest issues facing interfaith couples is how to deal with their parents," Fingerman said. "[My generation] raised our children to believe in and strive for a pluralistic society, and then we put pressure on them when they marry someone of a different faith, as if they fell in love to spite us."

Fingerman held a class for parents of children in an interfaith marriage. Once. "There was so much anger in the room," she said. "I didn't need that."

Bruce and Miriam met while attending an East Coast college. After living together for several years, they decided to marry. Because Miriam's family had never been particularly active in their synagogue, she

▼ "The Marriage of Ruth and Rocco" looks at what can happen when a Jewish woman marries an Italian Catholic man.





▲ Ruth's mother expresses her feelings about her daughter's wedding by wearing mourning attire.

agreed to a ceremony in Bruce's Methodist congregation.

"That's when my mom suddenly became Jewish," Miriam said. "She insisted on a rabbi. We finally found one who would co-officiate, and then my parents wouldn't even attend the wedding. We all lost sight of the fact that while it's important to take parents' feelings into consideration, when it comes down to it, this was Bruce's and my wedding."

Fingerman and other religious counselors agree that it's important for the couple to talk honestly with their parents about faith issues, including the wedding ceremony and how the children will be raised, and to encourage the parents to articulate their feelings. But the final decision belongs to the couple, and parents should respect their decision.

What About the Children

The counselors also agree that a decision on the faith in which to raise the children needs to be made before the couple is married, even if the couple isn't planning on having children. If the couple waits until the birth of a child, religion becomes a power struggle that could be fatal to the marriage.

Both Fink and Ruhe cited examples of successful interfaith marriages where the family had a religious identity, Judaism, for example, and the non-Jewish spouse maintained a private religious identity.

"The saddest is when the family becomes conscientious abstainers," Ruhe said. "The children become religious illiterates." Fink added: "Religion provides an anchor in the community."

Balancing Act encourages families to settle upon one religion as well. "Don't say you'll wait and let the children decide," Fingerman said. "If you as adults can't make a decision, what makes you think a child can? The child ends up feeling he or she is choosing between parents." She further encourages celebrating holidays with the non-participating religion's grandparents so that the children learn about those traditions as well.

Voices of Experience

Couples in Balancing Act wanted to know about the long term; they wanted to talk with others about the challenges facing interfaith Jewish marriages and how they met them. Connections, an informal group with couples ranging from newlyweds to long-time marriages, that meets once a month at Temple B'Nai Jeshurun, provides this support.

Aaron and Susan have participated in Balancing Act and Connections. They've been together more than 10 years and have a young son. Aaron has a strong foundation in Judaism. Susan continues her membership in the Presbyterian Church.

Susan volunteered to raise their child in the Jewish faith. Aaron said he loves her very much for what she's done. "I know how difficult it is for her," he said. "I know I couldn't do what she did and raise our son as a Presbyterian."

Susan's advice for interfaith couples is to realize going into the marriage that there will be sacrifice and compromise. There can even be some surprises. "I attend services at the temple with the family," she said. "I used to also go to services at my church, but I stopped because I really didn't have the time. ... Actually, I stopped because attending could make me sad. We'd be singing a hymn, and I realized my son would never do this with me."

Aaron said this example underscores his advice to interfaith couples: "Talk constantly. Know yourself, your feelings about your faith and what you can accept about others — which is not as easy as it sounds — and be honest. Be sensitive. As much as you think you know about your partner or their religion, there's much more that you don't know."



▲ Happily ever after for Rocco and Ruth?

**All names of interfaith couples interviewed and some identifying characteristics have been changed.*

Photographs are from "The Marriage of Ruth and Rocco," an interactive comedy produced by Professional Entertainment Services for business meetings and private parties, in which "a Jewish American princess marries a nice Italian boy," with the audience participating in the fun and family struggles throughout the wedding ceremony, reception and dance.

SHOPPING FOR A CHURCH

TAKING A CONSUMER'S APPROACH TO WORSHIP IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE COMMON AS DENOMINATIONAL LOYALTIES FADE

By **WILLIAM SIMBRO**
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

In the style of David Letterman, Cindy and David Hinkle compiled a Top 10 List of candidate congregations.

As their church-shopping began, they developed criteria: friendly members who cared about each other and who welcomed strangers without pressuring them, preaching that was brief and relevant, upbeat worship, good education programs, and groups that dealt with real needs rather than just meeting because they always have.

Denominational loyalty ranked low for the Hinkles, typical of young career couples returning to church after a post-high-school absence.

Words like "meaning," "reality" and "belonging" struck a chord. Words like "Methodist," "Baptist" or "Catholic" didn't.

Their style of church-shopping reflects national trends, well-established by polls. Denominational loyalties are fading in favor of a consumer-like mentality that shows loyalty for name-brand products is fading in favor of generic and store brands.

"The product is meaning, fulfillment and joy," said the Rev. Eugene Koth, founding pastor of Walnut Hills United Methodist Church in West Des Moines, which the Hinkles chose as their own.

Four other Iowa couples have church-shopping experiences that illustrate similar criteria for finding a church or any other house of worship — quality preaching, extras such as child care, and, sometimes, the building itself.

In the Hinkles' case, the birth of the West Des Moines couple's first child after six years of marriage sparked memories of the role of religion in their lives as they grew up.

Cindy, 30, marketing director for Valley West Mall in West Des Moines, had been an active Catholic, with 12 years of parochial school before college. David, 31, a pharmaceutical salesman, was an active Methodist as a youth.

"We both were raised that way," David Hinkle said. "Church was where we formed our values and morals. We wanted Nicholas to have the same examples and opportunities to start his life as we did."

While seeking a church for Nicholas, now 5 months old, they found a serendipitous bonus in a church that brings meaning to their lives as well. In mid-March the Hinkles, who have been active at Walnut Hills since October, will become members and Nicholas will be baptized. That almost didn't happen.

The Hinkles consulted the Yellow Pages and the Directory of Worship advertisement in The Des Moines Register to select 10 candidates to visit.

They included one or more Catholic, Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Methodist congregations. They found things they liked. They found things they didn't like — some simplistic and boring sermons, lackluster music, cool receptions, few members their age, for instance.

"A new United Methodist Church for the western suburbs" had caught their attention in the newspaper ad for Walnut Hills. They followed the ad's directions to the church and found themselves in the parking lot of Western Hills Elementary School.

"We sat there, looked at each other, shook our heads, and drove off to another church to do our shopping for that day," recalls David Hinkle. Still wary about worship on a basketball court, they decided to give it a try the next week.

They liked the preaching, the music, the friendliness, the sense of excitement about being in church. They sensed something they still find hard to define.

"It was a feeling that we fit in. We felt part of

CHURCH Please turn to Page 2E



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1994, SECTION E

2-15-94 Pancakes and Dixieland music

Today is Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the observance of Lent. It's also called Pancake Tuesday or Fat Tuesday. In Florida (where the temperature is *always* above zero) it's also a public holiday.

TIPSHEET



**Polly
FLUG**

A pancake lunch with sausages, grapefruit and beverage, will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Ninth and High streets. There will be Dixieland band music to entertain you. Lunch is \$3.

A pancake supper, with Michigan blueberries and sausage, will be served from 5 to 7 tonight in Wave-

land Hall at Plymouth Congregational Church, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. It's \$3 per person or \$10 per family.

2/19/94 Churches schedule Lenten observances

Soup suppers, concerts and special services and programs continue to fill the schedules of area churches as Christians head into the second week of Lent. Some of those events include:

Christ Lutheran Church, 525 S.E. Army Post Road — Soup supper, 6 p.m. Wednesday with 6:45 p.m. service.

Collegiate Presbyterian Church, Ames — The next in the seven mid-week series of Organ Meditation Concerts will be given at 12:10 p.m. Wednesday by Collegiate Presbyterian organist Sunny Stewart.

Cross of St. Martin, Perry — Light supper at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday followed by Holy Eucharist at 7

p.m. and a review and reflection time at 7:40 p.m.

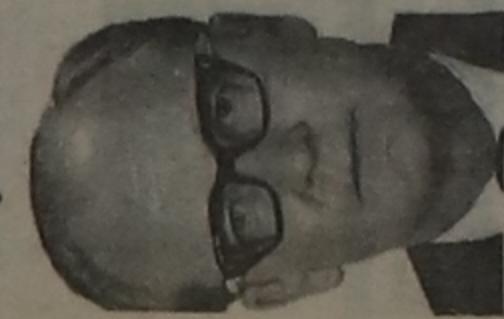
Easton Place United Methodist Church, 2412 Easton Blvd. — "Darling To Dream Again," a Church of the Air Ministries program scheduled from 9 to 10:15 a.m. Saturdays and 6 to 7:15 p.m. Sundays through Easter.

Glen Echo Christian Church, 4323 Douglas Ave. — An ecumenical Lenten service at 7:30 p.m. Sunday with **Douglas Avenue Presbyterian Church** and **New Hope United Methodist Church**. Featured will be a "dialogue drama" titled "Adam and Eve: The Rest of the Story" presented by the Rev. Curt and Lisa Joseph of **Highland Park Lutheran Church**.

Palestine Lutheran Church, Iowa Highway 210 south of Huxley — Congregations of **Nazareth Lutheran Church** in Cambridge and **Bethany Lutheran Church** in Kelley join in Lenten observances at Palestine church at 7:30 p.m. the next five Wednesdays. Each week a different lay speaker will talk.

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. — Chapel programs at 7 a.m. each Tuesday of Lent, followed by breakfast at 7:20 a.m. Members of the community will speak each week about how their faith has affected their work and public life and whether there have been conflicts with the two. Next week's speaker will be lawyer Cecil Goettsch.

2/16/94
Richard H. Beatty, 77, of 5000 Pleasant St. died of a heart ailment Sunday at Iowa Lutheran Hospital.



Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery.

Mr. Beatty, a lifelong Des Moines resident, retired as an attorney in private practice. He was an Army veteran of World War II and a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Iowa State Bar Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Highland Park American Legion and the Iowa State University and Drake Law School alumni associations.

His wife, Herta, survives.

The family will visit with friends after 3 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

2-16-94
Vernon L. Douthit, 90, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died there Monday of complications of pancreatic cancer. Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. Private entombment of the remains will be in Masonic Cemetery Mausoleum.



Mr. Douthit was born in St. Louis and lived in St. Paul, Minn., before moving to Des Moines in 1973. He retired in Minneapolis as a regional manager for the Insurance Company of North America of Philadelphia.

Surviving are a daughter, Susan Wirtz of Waukegan, and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or Alzheimer's Disease Association. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

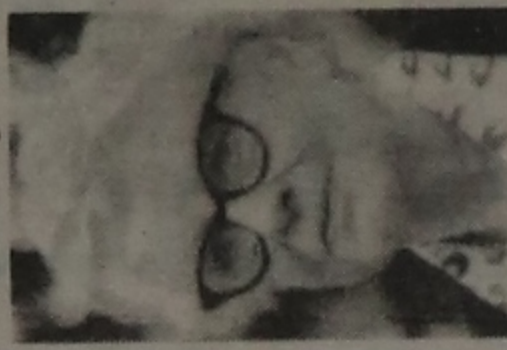
2/26/94
Carl Richard Gravander Sr., 74, of 4000 11th Place died of a heart ailment Thursday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Private burial in Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery will precede a 1:30 p.m. memorial service Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Mr. Gravander was born in Chicago and moved to Des Moines 1½ years ago from New Jersey, where he had worked for D. Kaltman Drug Co.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine; a son, Carl Jr., of Des Moines; and a brother, George of Largo, Fla.

Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

1/30/94
Marion C. Dickinson, 87, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of a respiratory ailment Friday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. Private burial of the remains will be in Glendale Cemetery.

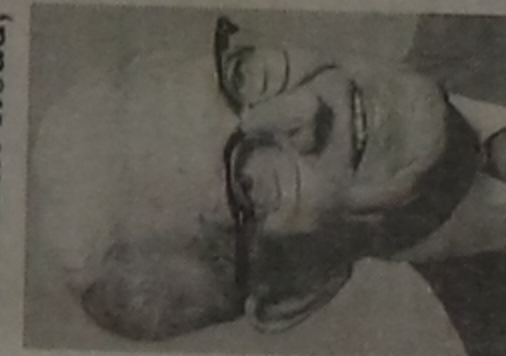


Mrs. Dickinson was born in Rowland, N.C., and had lived in Des Moines since 1929. She was a homemaker and was a member of Proteus Club, a former president of Junior League of Des Moines, and a former board member of Roadside Settlement House and Convalescent Home for Children.

Surviving are two sons, L. Call Jr. of Des Moines and Roderick of Coral Gables, Fla.; a daughter, Nancy McComb of Fort Collins, Colo.; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or Wesley Acres' Good Samaritan Fund or Health Center Campaign. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

1/22/94
Paul F. Bechtold, 97, of Crestview Acres Retirement Home, 916 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, died of a respiratory ailment Wednesday at Urban Dale Health Care Center. Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member, and burial will be in Chapel Hill Gardens Cemetery.

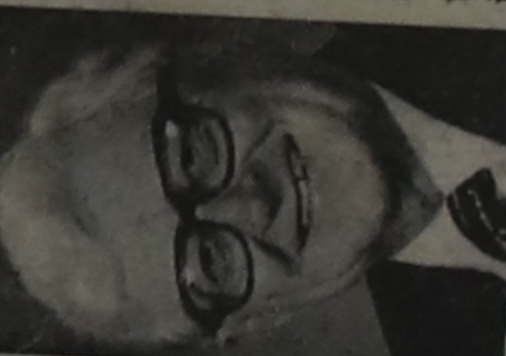


The Rev. Mr. Bechtold was born in Girard, Ill., and lived in the Des Moines area 30 years. He had served as pastor of 12 churches in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, New York and Alabama and taught sociology, philosophy and comparative religion at various colleges, including Westmar in LeMars and William Penn in Oskaloosa. He was a member of Kiwanis Club, former president of Southern Union College in Wadley, Ala., and past state president of the American Association of Retired Persons.

Surviving are his wife, Mary; two daughters, Elaine Waggner of Falls Church, Va., and Helen Cotney of Huntsville, Ala.; 11 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Merle Hay Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

1-17-93
Loel C. Timm, 74, of 422 56th St. died of a heart ailment Saturday at home. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. Private interment will be at Glendale Cemetery prior to services.

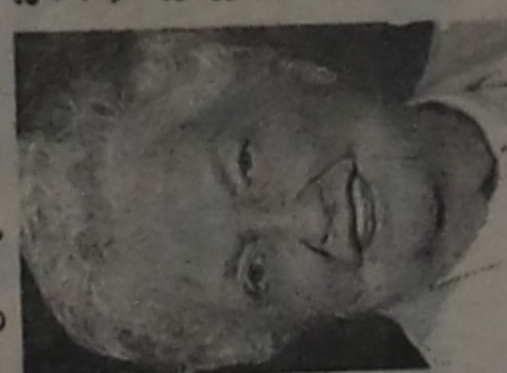


Mr. Timm was born in Hawkeye and had lived in Des Moines since 1948. He was the retired owner of Keith Electric Construction Company, was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and was a member of the National Electrical Contractors Association, the Academy of Electrical Engineers and the Board of Electrical Examiners.

Among survivors are his wife, Laura; a daughter, Ginger Timm of Adel; a son, Randy of Norwalk; a sister, Lois Seileman of Mason City; and five grandchildren.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to his church or the Nephrology Clinic at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

1-11-94
Charlotte O'Brien, 86, of Norwalk died of pneumonia Friday at Regency Care Center, where she was a resident since 1990. The body was cremated and memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, of which she was a member.



Mrs. O'Brien, a former music teacher, was born in Emporia, Kan., and lived in Norwalk 46 years. She was a member of TTT.

Surviving are two sons, Dennis of Des Moines and John of Evergreen, Colo.; and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or TTT. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

'Inherit' to be on local stage

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Polly
FLUG

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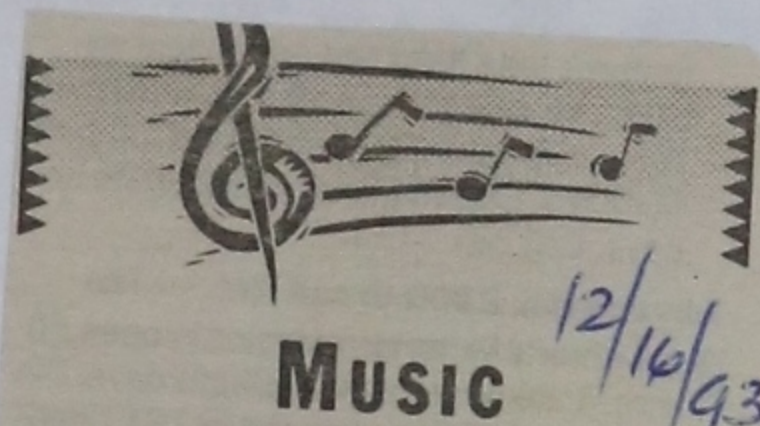
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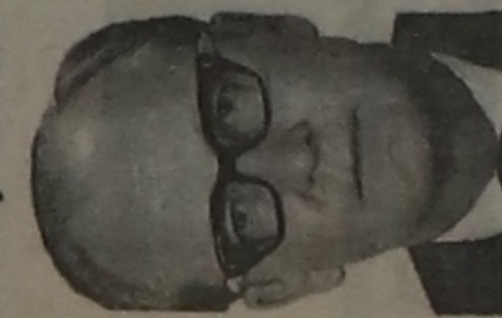
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2/9/94
Richard H. Beatty, 77, of 5000 Pleasant St. died of a heart ailment Sunday at Iowa Lutheran Hospital.



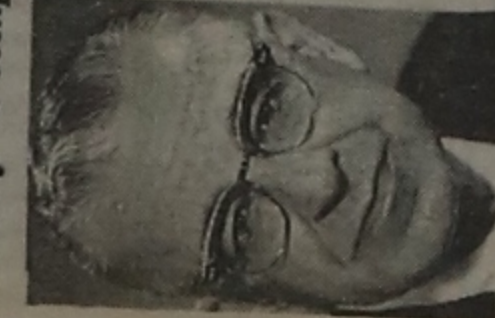
Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery.

Mr. Beatty, a lifelong Des Moines resident, retired as an attorney in private practice. He was an Army veteran of World War II and a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Iowa State Bar Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Highland Park American Legion and the Iowa State University and Drake Law School alumni associations.

His wife, Herta, survives.

The family will visit with friends after 3 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

2-16-94
Vernon L. Douthit, 90, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died there Monday of complications of pancreatic cancer. Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. Private entombment of the remains will be in Masonic Cemetery Mausoleum.



Mr. Douthit was born in St. Louis and lived in St. Paul, Minn., before moving to Des Moines in 1973. He retired in Minneapolis as a regional manager for the Insurance Company of North America of Philadelphia.

Surviving are a daughter, Susan Wirtz of Waukee; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or Alzheimer's Disease Association. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

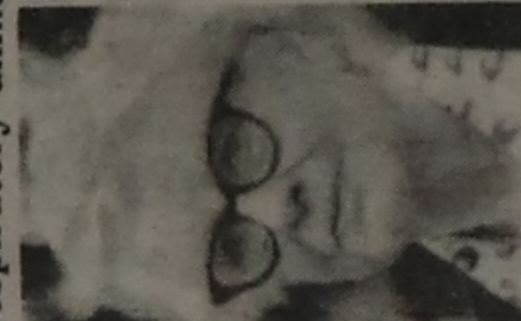
2/26/94
Carl Richard Gravander Sr., 74, of 4000 11th Place died of a heart ailment Thursday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Private burial in Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery will precede a 1:30 p.m. memorial service Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Mr. Gravander was born in Chicago and moved to Des Moines 1 1/2 years ago from New Jersey, where he had worked for D. Kaltman Drug Co.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine; a son, Carl Jr. of Des Moines; and a brother, George of Largo, Fla.

Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

1/30/94
Marion C. Dickinson, 87, of Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Ave., died of a respiratory ailment Friday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body will be cremated and memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. Private burial of the remains will be Glendale Cemetery.

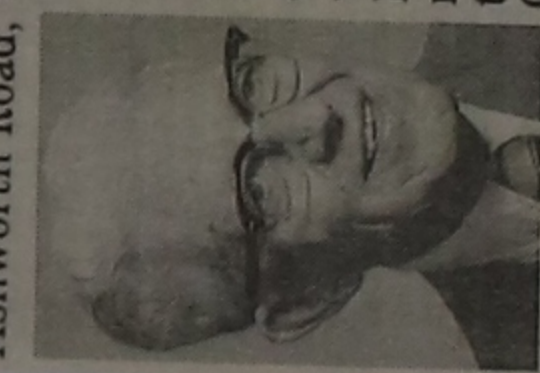


Mrs. Dickinson was born in Rowland, N.C., and had lived in Des Moines since 1929. She was a homemaker and was a member of Proteus Club, a former president of Junior League of Des Moines, and a former board member of Roadside Settlement House and Convalescent Home for Children.

Surviving are two sons, L. Call Jr. of Des Moines and Roderick of Coral Gables, Fla.; a daughter, Nancy McComb of Fort Collins, Colo.; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or Wesley Acres' Good Samaritan Fund or Health Center Campaign. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

1/22/94
Paul F. Bechtold, 97, of Crestview Acres Retirement Home, 916 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, died of a respiratory ailment Wednesday at Urbanale Health Care Center. Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member, and burial will be in Chapel Hill Gardens Cemetery.

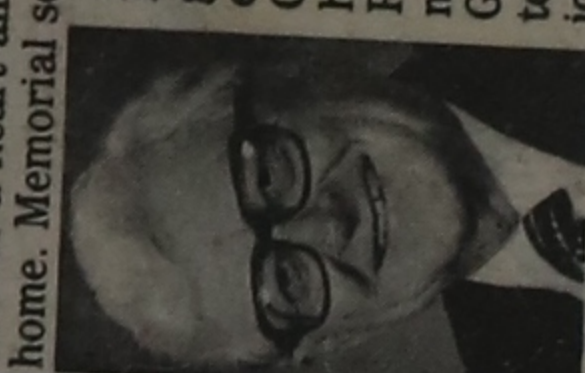


The Rev. Mr. Bechtold was born in Girard, Ill., and lived in the Des Moines area 30 years. He had served as pastor of 12 churches in Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, New York and Alabama and taught sociology, philosophy and comparative religion at various colleges, including Westmar in LeMars and William Penn in Oskaloosa. He was a member of Kiwanis Club, former president of Southern Union College in Wadley, Ala., and past state president of the American Association of Retired Persons.

Surviving are his wife, Mary; two daughters, Elaine Waggener of Falls Church, Va., and Helen Cotney of Huntsville, Ala.; 11 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Merle Hay Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

1-17-93
Loel C. Timm, 74, of 422 56th St. died of a heart ailment Saturday at home. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. Private interment will be at Glendale Cemetery prior to services.

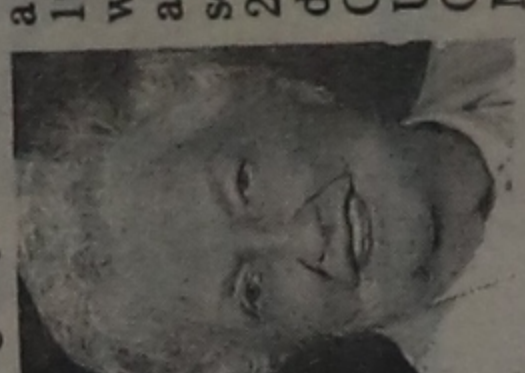


Mr. Timm was born in Hawkeye and had lived in Des Moines since 1948. He was the retired owner of Keith Electric Construction Company, was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and was a member of the National Electrical Contractors Association, the Academy of Electrical Engineers and the Board of Electrical Examiners.

Among survivors are his wife, Laura; a daughter, Ginger Timm of Adel; a son, Randy of Norwalk; a sister, Lois Seileman of Mason City; and five grandchildren.

Friends may call after 4 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will be present from 6 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to his church or the Nephrology Clinic at Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

1-11-94
Charlotte O'Brien, 86, of Norwalk died of pneumonia Friday at Regency Care Center, where she was a resident since 1990. The body was cremated and memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, of which she was a member.



Mrs. O'Brien, a former music teacher, was born in Emporia, Kan., and lived in Norwalk 46 years. She was a member of TTT.

Surviving are two sons, Dennis of Des Moines and John of Evergreen, Colo.; and two grandchildren.

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Music

Chanticleer

3/2/94

An Orchestra of Voices

The late Mike Evans, University of Iowa media instructor and music impresario, had his own system for rating entertainment. It answered the question "How far from Des Moines would I drive to see this?"

Evans' highest ranking was "a full Chicago," meaning it was worth a 10-hour round trip. His lesser endorsements were a Minneapolis (eight hours), a Kansas City (six hours), an Omaha (four hours), an Iowa City (three hours) and an Ames (one hour).

A full Chicago is coming to Des Moines on March 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Congregational Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Chanticleer, French for "clear song," is America's only major vocal group that performs a cappella, without any instrumental accompaniment.

The 12 male voices in this San Francisco chorale span the absolute limits of the human voice — from the highest counter-tenor to the deepest bass. Their repertoire is equally wide ranging from 13th-century monastic songs through madrigals, 19th-century Romanticism, American folk songs, gospel, barbershop, Irving Berlin, Hoagy Carmichael and Stephen Sondheim.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch reviewer John Huxford had this to say about Chanticleer: "Imagine a choral concert at which you could bring together the ethereal purity of the Kings College Boys Choir, the dead-on intonations of the Hi-Lo's, the hip swinginess of the Manhattan Transfer, the rhythmic drive of the Nylons, the offbeat vocalizations of the Swingle Singers and the lighthearted approach of the King's Singers."

I love watching people leave a Chanticleer concert. Many look as if they have experienced an epiphany. I suppose this is why the group plays so often in churches.

Chanticleer's reputation precedes their Des Moines debut. They consistently sell out venues considerably larger than Plymouth's 800 seats. After all, a full Chicago draws, by definition, from a 350 mile radius.

Tickets are \$12 and \$20 and available from the Plymouth music office, 255-3149, Borders Book Shop and The Book Store.

JIM DUNCAN

BEST EVENTS IN IOWA

Music

2/27/94

A cappella ensemble

Chanticleer, the only full-time professional a cappella vocal ensemble in the United States, will bring its seamless sounds to Des Moines for a concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational Church, 42nd Street and Ingersoll Avenue.

The group is known for being venturesome with music, ranging from Renaissance pieces to contemporary to gospel. The male chorus performs more than 80 concerts annually in the United States, Europe and Asia.

Tickets for the Des Moines concert are \$12 and \$20. Call (515) 255-3149.

■ **A workshop** for clergy and other religious professionals on Clergy Self-Care will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 11 at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., sponsored by the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center. Roy Oswald, senior consultant at the Alban Institute in Washington, D.C., will conduct the seminar. Cost is \$35 and registration deadline is Feb. 7. Call 274-4006.

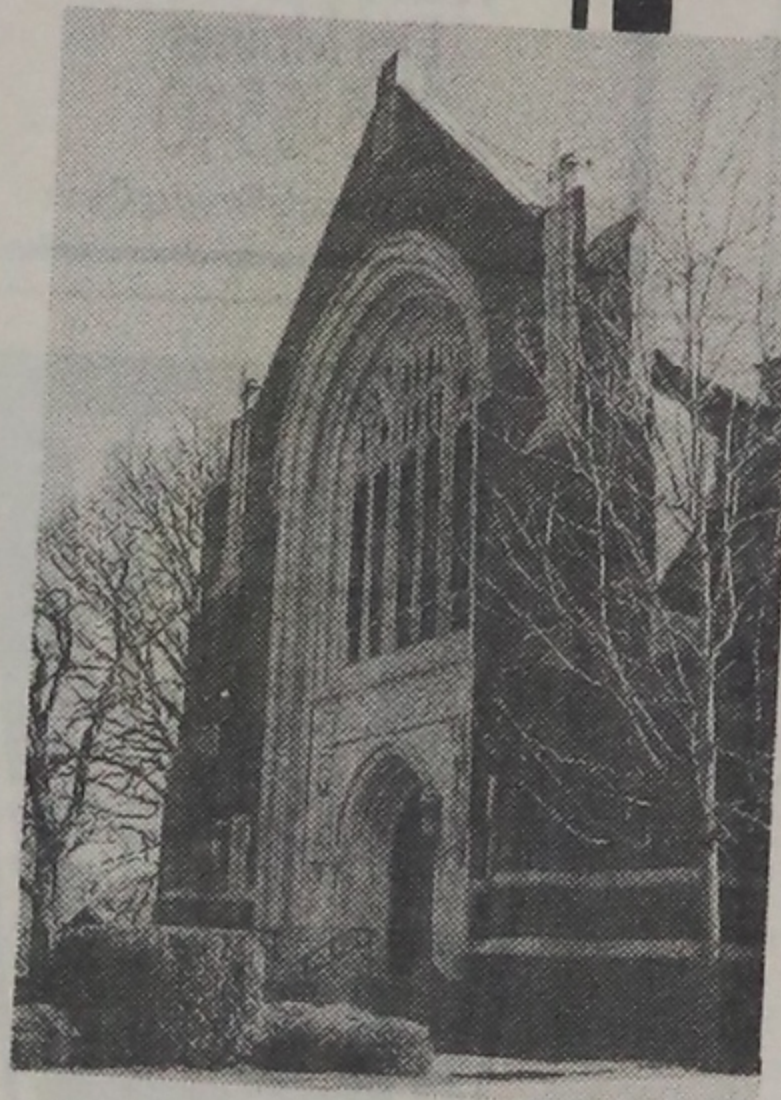
■ **Lunch music.** The Plymouth Brass will play at noon Wednesday at St. John's Lutheran Church at 601 Keosauqua Way. The half-hour recital, which is free, is part of the Wednesday Noonday Recital Series. After the presentation, a homemade lunch is available for \$2.50.

December 24th at Plymouth Congregational UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THREE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5:00 p.m.
FAMILY SERVICE

9:00 p.m.
and
11:00 p.m.
CANDLELIGHT
SERVICES



Ⓔ Ingersoll and 42nd Street

(Just 2 blocks South of 42nd Street Freeway exit)

IOWA BOY



**Chuck
OFFENBURGER**

One of Iowa's finest hours

My church, St. Mary of Nazareth Catholic, is sponsoring two families of refugees from what is sounding more and more like a modern holocaust in war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina.

My wife Carla's church, Plymouth Congregational, is sponsoring three families.

They will be among 150 Bosnian refugees who've come to Iowa in recent months, said Wayne Johnson, chief of the Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services. "Another 150 or more are expected in the next nine months."

I've been thrilled watching our two congregations' quick response, and it has reminded me of what surely must be one of Iowa's finest hours. Beginning in 1975 and led by then-Gov. Robert Ray, the state threw open its arms and hearts to 13,000 Southeast Asian refugees from the Vietnam War.

It's amazing how well all that has turned out, isn't it? Fifteen years later, check the roster of top 10 students in many graduating classes at Iowa high schools and colleges. You find a lot of names decidedly not native to this state: *Nguyen, Tran, Baccam, Vang*.

There must be some wonderfully warm moments now for Ray and others who led that effort.

"I've had the good fortune to do a lot of things for a lot of people," said Ray, now 65 and president of Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Iowa, "but there's nothing like when people come up and say, 'You saved my life.' There's no feeling like that one."

Colleen Shearer, now 62 and retired in Farmington, Minn., was director of Job Service of Iowa when Ray asked her to also head the state's unprecedented refugee program.

In Awe

"I look back and am in awe of it," said Shearer. "No one could have been less prepared than I was. None of us really knew what we were getting into. But with God's help, we did it."

Ken Quinn, now 51 and in his 27th year with the U.S. State Department, is the native of Dubuque who came back to Iowa then on a one-year liaison arrangement with the governor's office. He wound up staying three years working mainly in the refugee effort.

"It was one of the very best things I ever did in my life," said Quinn, who now is a deputy assistant secretary of state in Washington, covering Southeast Asia and the Pacific islands.

Presidents Ford and Carter had asked for the states' help when normal refugee organizations, churches and social agencies became overwhelmed. Iowa responded quicker and bigger than almost all other states.

The refugees Iowa took included 4,500 Vietnamese, 3,200 Laotians, 2,700 Tai Dam, 800 Cambodians, 400 Hmong and a few other smaller groups.

Most had supported the U.S. efforts in Vietnam and, hence, faced death or imprisonment after Saigon fell.

"What we got were educated people, determined people, courageous people, hard-working people," said Ray. "These were people who sacrificed everything they had not to be oppressed. That takes courage beyond the imagination of most of us."

Key Moments

There were key moments: Ray's watching a report on CBS-TV's "60 Minutes" in 1978 about the danger the "boat people" were in, calling Quinn late that night and saying, "Ken, we can't wait. We have to act now."

There was Ray's trip in 1979 to refugee camps in Thailand, the startling photographs he shot there of starvation and suffering, and The Des Moines Register's dramatic display of those photos under a headline, "I saw people die — Ray."

That prompted the formation of Iowa SHARES (standing for "Iowa Sends Help to Aid Refugees and End Starvation"), the collection of more than \$500,000 from Iowans and volunteer doctors and nurses from Iowa traveling to Thailand with food and medical supplies to work more than a year in the refugee camps.

"It brought recognition nationally and internationally of Iowa as a humanitarian state," Ray said.

"I always knew Iowans would help when they became convinced of the need. This is a state of people with big hearts and great understanding. We'd always done well on civil rights. It was just in our blood to help others."

Play, debate on creation offered

1/20/94

By MELINDA VOSS

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Few plays among American dramas do a better job of portraying the clash between free speech and religion than "Inherit the Wind."

Based on a fictionalized adaptation of the 1925 Scopes "Monkey Trial," the play dramatizes a debate that continues to this day — whether evolution should be taught in the public schools.

The Des Moines Playhouse, in conjunction with its production of "Inherit the Wind," will host a discussion of speech issues at 7 tonight.

Panelists include Jim Autry, chairman of People for the American Way; the Rev. Robert Canoy, pastor of the Ashworth Road Baptist Church; Roxanne Conlin, a Des Moines attorney; Ruth Ann Gaines, an East High School drama teacher; the Rev. Jim Gilliom, pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church; Barbara Mack, an Iowa State University journalism professor; and Jonathan Wilson, a member of the Des Moines school board. Mary Brubaker of KCCI-TV will moderate.

The event, which is free to the public, will begin with a short excerpt from the play performed by the actors in the production. The panel discussion will be followed by questions and comments from the audience.

Performances of the play will start Jan. 28 and run through Feb. 13. Two other panel discussions will be held before the play on Feb. 3 and Feb. 11. Those panel discussions will start at 7:15 p.m.

Two student matinee performances with reduced ticket prices for area high school students will be presented on Feb. 4 and 10 at 9:30 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Panel discussions will follow those performances.

Tickets for the play are \$12 for Fridays and Saturdays and \$11 for Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays with a \$1 discount for senior citizens and full-time students. Group discounts also are available. For more information, call the box office at 277-6261.

Take in some tunes at lunchtime

1-6-94
By JOANNE BOECKMAN
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Listen up, or you might let this treat for the ears go unheard. (There's also a treat for the tummy here, too.) Every Wednesday from 12:05 to 12:30 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church at 601 Keosauqua Way has a recital in its sanctuary as part of its Wednesday Noonday Recital Series. This is the fifth year for the series.

The programs, which change each week, include a variety of music by artists from the Des Moines Symphony, area colleges and universities, and performances by well-known area personalities and performers. The recitals, which are free, began in October and will continue until May 11, breaking Feb. 16 through March 30 for the Lenten season.

Linda Wibben, organist and director of fine arts at St. John's, says "the program is made possible through the generosity of Helen Hovde, a patron who is a 90-plus-year-old lady who was baptized in 1903 in that church. She has offered the gift in thanksgiving for her parents, Charles M. and Emelie L. Hovde. This is the fourth year she has sponsored it."

Wibben says the attendance is growing at the recitals, but there is room for more. "Each program averages attendance of 60 to 100 people. We are happy with how it's grown; we would love to have more people; we would love to fill it (the church)." She points

out that people can attend during lunch hour, even if it's a short one, and anyone who has to leave during the program can do so.

Those who drive to the recital can park free in the parking lot just north of the church.

After the recital, lunch is available for \$2.50. Mary Corey, who works part time at the church, plans and makes a homemade lunch every week. Wibben says she has offered such menus as soup, pasta dishes or sandwiches, and there's always a vegetable and dessert, plus coffee and often another drink such as punch or hot cider.

Coming recitals:

Jan. 12: The Plymouth Brass

Jan. 19: Scott Davis, trumpet, Linda Wibben, piano

Jan. 26: Janet Alcorn, soprano

Feb. 2: Piano duets with Andrea Hinrichs and Linda Wibben

Feb. 9: Sandra Tatge, cello

April 6: Jerry Milholin, organ

April 13: Joyce Wheeler, clarinet

April 20: Andy Classen, trumpet

April 27: Chiu-Ling Lin, piano

May 4: Kenneth Grant, cello

May 11: Gilda Biel, piano

CURTAIN UP



WINTER 1993-94

THE DES MOINES PLAYHOUSE NEWSLETTER

75TH SEASON

"Inherit The Wind" Special Events

Do you think prayer in public schools is unconstitutional? What books are appropriate for classroom curriculum? Who should make these decisions? A panel discussion about such controversial topics is one of several activities planned by The Playhouse to complement its production of *Inherit the Wind*.

The forum will focus on current free speech/religion issues, particularly in the public school setting. "We wanted to make the most of our ability to reach the public and to provide a forum for lively debate," says John Viars, Playhouse executive director, "and this production offers a tremendous opportunity for discussion."

The play, which will run from January 28 to February 13, is based on the 1925 Scopes "Monkey Trial," during which Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan argued whether evolution should be taught in a Tennessee public school system.

The event is free and open to the public and will begin with cast members performing a short excerpt from the play. The panel presentation will be followed by time for discussion with the audience. Possible topics include: prayer in school, teaching curriculum, library and class reading materials, content of school newspapers and topics and speakers for school assemblies and graduations.

Panel members are: Jim Autry, Chairman, People for the American Way; Rev. Robert Canoy, pastor, Ashworth Road Baptist Church; Roxanne Conlin, attorney; Ruth Ann Gaines, drama teacher, East High School; Rev. Jim Gilliom, pastor, Plymouth Congregational Church; Barbara Mack, professor of journalism, Iowa State University; Jonathan Wilson, member, Des Moines School Board, and attorney. The moderator for the evening is Mary Brubaker of KCCI-TV.

In addition to the January 20 panel, director-led discussions will be held prior to the performances at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, February 3 and Friday February 11.

11-18-93

Henrietta D. Hughes, 80, of 505 36th St. died of cancer Wednesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Entombment of the remains will be in Merle Hay Mausoleum.



Mrs. Hughes was born in Sioux Center and had lived in Des Moines since 1956. She was a homemaker and member of Blank Children's Hospital Auxiliary.

Surviving are a son, John of Clear Lake; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central Iowa. Merle Hay Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Elsie H. Hertel, 66, of 5941 Cottage Drive died of cancer Monday at Hospice Kavanagh House. A graveside service at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Story Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Ames will precede a 2 p.m. memorial service at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines.



Mrs. Hertel was born in Ames and lived in Des Moines 29 years. She retired in 1990 as computer systems coordinator for PEO Sisterhood and formerly taught in the Kamrar schools and taught handicapped adults at Camp Sunnyside. She was a member of PEO chapter KM, the Church of Christ and the American Association of University Women.

Surviving are her husband, Gene; two sons, John of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Daniel of Portland, Ore.; a daughter, Jane Meyers of Amarillo, Texas; her mother, Mary Zea of Ames; and three grandchildren.

Friends may call after 2:30 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home, where the family will greet friends from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Central Iowa or the American Cancer Society.

11-22-93

Sherry Robert Fisher, 86, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of a heart ailment Saturday at Hospice Kavanagh House. Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at Masonic Cemetery.



Mr. Fisher retired as a vice president of Central National Bank in 1972 and was on the board of directors of the bank until 1981. He was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church, Capitol Masonic Lodge, Des Moines Consistory, Za-Ga-Zig Shrine, Royal Order of Jest-ers, Izaak Walton League, Sons of the American Revolution, American Legion, Rotary Club, Living History Farms Foundation, the Des Moines Club and the J.N. "Ding" Darling Conversation Foundation.

He is survived by a son, Robert. Friend may call after 3 p.m. today the funeral home.

Virginia Tippee, 92, of Calvin Manor, 4210 Hickman Road, died of a heart ailment there Monday. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Private burial of the remains will be in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mrs. Tippee, a homemaker, was born in Gretna, Neb., and moved to Des Moines in 1923 and the care center eight years ago.

She is survived by two sons, John "Jock" Wallace of Des Moines and Ross Wallace of Richardson, Texas; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or the Good Samaritan fund at Calvin Manor. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

OCT 93

Mina A. VanVoorhis, 87, of Valley View Village, 2571 Guthrie Ave., died of pneumonia Monday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. today at McLaren's Funeral Chapel, with burial at Resthaven Cemetery.



Mrs. VanVoorhis, a homemaker, was born in Buffalo, Okla. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Among survivors are a son, Donald of Riverside, Ill.; two daughters, Lu Rae Fischer of Des Moines and Ruth VanVoorhis of Arlington, Texas; a sister, Altho Prevo of Placerville, Calif.; eight grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Friends may call at the funeral chapel a half-hour before services. Memorial contributions may be made to the Valley View Village chapel fund or the American Lung Association.

11-24-93

**JOIN WITH US IN DES MOINES' TRADITIONAL
THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE
10:00 A.M.**



Remember the first Thanksgiving at our traditional Pilgrim Service.
Join families clad in Pilgrim garb in giving thanks.

STATE THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

GOVERNOR TERRY BRANSTAD

SERMON: "Pilgrims Always"
James O. Gilliom, Senior Minister

OFFERING FOR



The Homeless of Des Moines Through
the Plymouth Homeless Assistance Team



**Plymouth Congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

4126 Ingersoll (Just 2 blocks South of 42nd St. Freeway Exit)
Child care for pre-kindergarten

■ **NAFTA**, the North American Free Trade Agreement, will be discussed in a 7 p.m. program Sunday in Waveland Hall at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Speakers will be Dan Looker, business editor of Successful Farming magazine; the Rev. David Ostendorf, co-founder and former executive director of Prairiefire Rural Action; Jerry Perkins, farm editor of The Des Moines Register; and Steffen Schmidt, professor of political science at Iowa State University. 11-13-93

■ **"Music for Organ and Piano"** will be presented by Carl Gravander and Elaine Wedeking at 3 p.m. Sunday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., as part of the Plymouth Organ Series. 11/14/93

Thanksgiving services planned

Several Thanksgiving services are scheduled throughout the metropolitan area next week, including one by the Southside Ecumenical Committee from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday in the Lincoln High School Auditorium.

The Rev. Keith Ratliff, president of the Black Ministerial Alliance, will deliver the sermon.

Child care will be available, and refreshments will be served after the service.

Non-perishable food items and cash donations for the Des Moines Area Religious Council's Emergency Food Pantry will be collected.

Some other Thanksgiving services are:

- First Church of Christ, Scientist, 3750 Grand Ave. — 10 a.m. service Thursday with readings, hymns, a solo and testimonies of spiritual healing and thanksgiving.

- Immanuel Lutheran Church, Waukee — Community service with area congregations participating, sermon delivered by the Rev. Robert Schoeman of St. Boniface Catholic Church, 7 p.m. Sunday.

- New Hope United Methodist Church, 4525 N.W. Beaver Drive — Joint service with congregations of Glen Echo Christian and Douglas Avenue Presbyterian churches, 7 p.m. Sunday.

- Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. — 10 a.m. Thursday with offering taken for the homeless.

- St. John's Lutheran Church, 601 Keosauqua Way — 10 a.m. Thursday, with Evangel, Cathedral and Boy choirs; youth will serve breakfast prior to the service.

- Zion Lutheran Church, 4300 Beaver Ave. — 7 p.m. Thursday with offering taken for Christmas baskets for the needy.

THANKSGIVING MEALS

The following churches and missions are sponsoring traditional Thanksgiving meals Thursday.

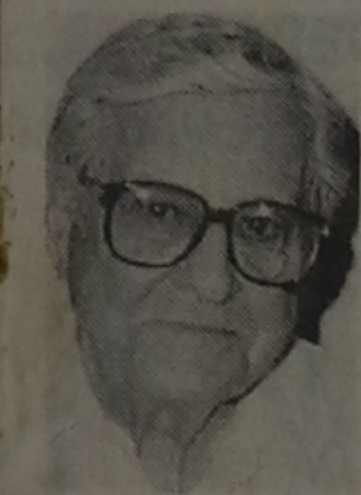
■ **The ninth annual** community Thanksgiving dinner at Highland Park Lutheran Church, 147 E. Euclid Ave., will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A freewill offering will be accepted. Meals will be delivered from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. To make reservations or to request a ride or meal delivery, call 277-0074 or 244-6517.

■ **The East Side Cluster** of Churches will sponsor a dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 3300 Easton Blvd. Reservations are requested and delivery service and transportation are available by calling 265-0627 or 266-9988. On Thursday, call 266-2621.

■ **Harbor of Hope** Mission, 1617 Oakland Ave., will host its ninth free Thanksgiving meal beginning at 1 p.m. Reservations are requested. Call 244-0370.

■ **The Door of Faith** Mission, 1006 Grand Ave., will serve a free Thanksgiving meal from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Raymond J. Denkhoff, 86, of 3000 Grand Ave. died of pneumonia Tuesday at Hospice Kavanagh House, 900 56th St. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Dunn's Funeral Home, and burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mr. Denkhoff was born in York, Neb., and lived in Des Moines 54 years, coming from Marshalltown and Monticello. He was a district manager with Ruan Inc.

Surviving are his wife, Margaret; a son, Raymond of Abilene, Texas; a sister, Elizabeth Denkhoff of Moline, Ill.; a brother, Lawrence of Sun City, Ariz.; and three grandchildren.

Friends may call after 5 p.m. today at the funeral home, where the family will be present from 5 to 8 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ or Hospice of Central Iowa.

Irene Anna Johnson, 76, of Elsie Mason Manor, 430 Grand Ave., died of a heart ailment Friday at Mercy Hospital Medical Center. Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Hamilton's Funeral Home. Cremation will follow, with burial in Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery.



Mrs. Johnson was born in Clear Lake, Wis., and lived in Des Moines 42 years. She retired from Olsan's Carpeting and was a member of Moose Lodge and Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Surviving are three daughters, Arlene Swant of Davenport, Wash., and Florence Davis and Catherine Hildebrand, both of Des Moines; two sons, Harold of Chula Vista, Calif., and Martin Jr. of Marysville, Wash.; a sister, Leona Kuhn of Chino Valley, Calif.; 18 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Fern G. Todd, 96, of Indianola died of a heart ailment Saturday at Village Retirement Community



there, where she had lived for 1½ years. Private family services will be today at Merle Hay Funeral Home, with burial at Chapel Hill Gardens Cemetery.

Mrs. Todd was born in Trenton, Mo., and had lived in Des Moines most of her life. She was a homemaker and a member of Plymouth Congregational Church and the Order of the Eastern Star.

Among survivors are a son, George of Indianola; six grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shepherd's Fund at Village Retirement Community.

Martin J. Timm, 20, of Adel died Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines of head injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident Aug. 6. Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, of which he was a member.



Burial will be in Glendale Cemetery.

Mr. Timm, a lifetime Adel resident, was an airman in the Air National Guard.

He is survived by his mother, Ginger Timm, and two sisters, Marsha Somsy and Mary Beth Somsy, all of Adel; and his grandparents, Loel and Laura Timm of Des Moines and Josie Somsy-Kanniainen of Granger.

The family will visit with friends from 5 to 8 p.m. today at Westover Funeral Home.

Bonita Belle Hoefle Utterback, 63, of 555 Fifth St. died of a heart attack Wednesday at Mercy Hospital Medical Center. Private burial will be at Beaver Cemetery, with memorial services at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member.



Mrs. Utterback was born in Beaver and had lived in Des Moines for 40 years. She was a homemaker.

Among survivors are her husband, Richard; two sons, Bradley Jay of Des Moines and Richard II of Sacramento, Calif.; two daughters, Jolene Torgler of Overland Park, Kan., and Lori Hilgenstieler of Columbus, Ga.; and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER ■ FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1993

Elsie L. Goodwin, 84, of 715 63rd St. died of complications of a stroke Saturday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body has been donated to the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences, and no services are planned at this time.

Mrs. Goodwin was born in Keokuk and had lived in Des Moines for 40 years. She was a member of the D.O.E.S. and the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

She is survived by a daughter, Victoria Botje of Garden Grove, Calif.; a son, Dutton of Des Moines; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are being handled by McLaren's Funeral Home in West Des Moines.

Anne A. Stuart, 71, of 21 32nd Place died of cancer Friday at home. The body was donated to the University of Iowa for medical research, and memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.



Mrs. Stuart, a homemaker, was born in Salem, Va., and moved to Des Moines in 1946. She was a Navy veteran of World War II and a member of the Church of Christ.

Surviving are her husband, Reece; two sons, Ted and David, and two daughters, Mary Stuart and Margaret Stuart, all of Des Moines; her mother, Mary Akers of Roanoke, Va.; a sister, Jane Goldman of Tucson, Ariz.; and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or the John Stoddard Cancer Center. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

DES MOINES SUNDAY REGISTER ■ AUGUST 15, 1993

Carolyn D. Bomhoff, 51, of 3425 Kingman Blvd., died of cancer Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body was cremated and memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member.



Mrs. Bomhoff was born in Baytown, Texas, and lived in Des Moines 23 years. She was an art teacher at Moore Elementary School.

Surviving are a daughter, Leslie Poplawski of Chapel Hill, N.C.; her mother, Helen Gregory of Baytown; and a grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Association of Retarded Citizens, her church or the American Cancer Society.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER ■ THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1993

Gerald E. Ralph, 55, of Coronado, Calif., died of a heart attack Feb. 28 in Newport Beach, Calif. The body was cremated and a memorial service has been scheduled for 7 p.m. Sunday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Des Moines, where he lived until 1987.

3/24/94

Sally Lehmann, 34, of Adel died of pneumonia Friday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines.



Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. Private burial will be Tuesday morning at Booneville Cemetery.

Mrs. Lehmann was born in Kirkwood, Mo., and had lived in Des Moines before moving to Adel two years ago. She was a fund development director with the Girl Scouts and was a member of the Girl Scouts, the Junior League, P.E.O., the National Society of Fund Raising Executives and had served on the board of directors for the Blank Park Zoo.

Survivors include her husband, Tad; her parents, Robert and Elizabeth Yapp of Des Moines; two brothers, Charles Yapp of Hoffman Estates, Ill., and Robert Yapp Jr. of Rock Island, Ill.; and a sister, Rebecca Powell of Chandler, Ariz.

Friends may call from 4 to 6 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Moingona Council of Girl Scouts. Mrs. Lehmann's husband was misidentified in a previous obituary.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER ■ MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 1993

Marian P. Tucker, 78, of 3100 Grand Ave. died of a heart ailment Tuesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Dunn's Funeral Home. Burial will be in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mrs. Tucker was born in Cleveland and lived in Des Moines 60 years. She retired as co-owner of Bruce and Carlson Furniture and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Surviving are a daughter, Betty Jean Boyle of Des Moines; two sisters, Jane Hallett of Glendale, Calif., and Bette Graber of Stockton, Calif.; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family will visit with friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to her church.

Roy W. Richards, 76, of Fountain West Health Center, 1501 Office Park Road, West Des Moines, died of pneumonia there Friday. Private services will be held at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at Masonic Cemetery.



Mr. Richards was born in Des Moines and had lived in the area all his life. He was a retired vice president with Younkers Department Store, was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ and the Iowa State University Alumni Association.

Among survivors are his wife, Rosemary; three daughters, Renee Raker, Rhonda Pallwitz and Rosanne Murphy, all of West Des Moines; a brother, Alfred of El Macero, Calif.; six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family will visit with friends from 2 to 4 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made to his church.

Nancy Jane Stevenson, 71, of 3662 Ingersoll Ave. died of complications of hepatitis Saturday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. The body will be cremated and memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, of which she was a member. Burial will be at Masonic Cemetery.



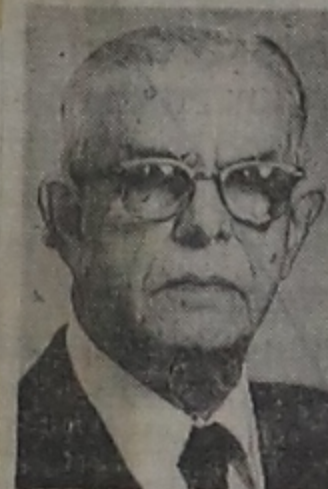
Mrs. Stevenson, a lifelong Des Moines resident, was a homemaker and a member of P.E.O. Chapter Q, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Colonial Dames of America and the Des Moines Club.

Among survivors are three sons, Daniel Stevenson III of Des Moines, Richard Rabe Jr. of West Des Moines and John Stevenson of Minneapolis; two daughters, Megan Stevenson of Des Moines and Jayne Stevenson of Seattle; and a sister, Megan Samartzis of Walnut Creek, Calif.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

OBITUARIES

George F. Billmeyer, 81, of Ramsey Home, 1611 27th St., died of a heart ailment Monday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member. Cremation will follow.



Mr. Billmeyer was born in Hanover, Pa., and moved to Des Moines in 1941. He was the retired owner of Billmeyer Brokerage Co. and had been a member of Izaak Walton League, Downtown Des Moines Optimist Club and the Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers. He was also on the executive advisory board of the Mid-Iowa Council of Boy Scouts of America and the Iowa State Fair board.

Surviving are two sons, Tom and Gary, both of Des Moines; a daughter, Georgia Bengs of Burt; and three grandchildren.

Friends may call after 3 p.m. Thursday at Westover Funeral Home, where the family will receive friends from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Boy Scouts of America.

AT 42ND AND GRAND

Des Moines Register
April 29, 1993

Tragic crash kills survivor of lung cancer

She was returning home after playing bridge when her car was struck. The other driver was charged with vehicular homicide.

By TOM ALEX

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

A Des Moines man has been charged with vehicular homicide in the death of a Des Moines woman.

Mary Adrianse, 63, of 3721 Lincoln Place Drive, who recently had won a bout with lung cancer, was fatally injured about 12:45 a.m. Wednesday at the intersection of 42nd Street and Grand Avenue.

Police said Adrianse, sister of Chuck Betts of Betts Cadillac Inc., was driving a Cadillac Deville south on 42nd Street when a west-bound Toyota Corolla driven by Charles Dean Rushing, 27, of 6430 Urbandale Ave. crashed into the driver's side door of the Cadillac.

Rushing, who according to a

check of police records never has had a valid Iowa driver's license, was taken to Broadlawns Medical Center, where he was in fair condition.

Passenger Released

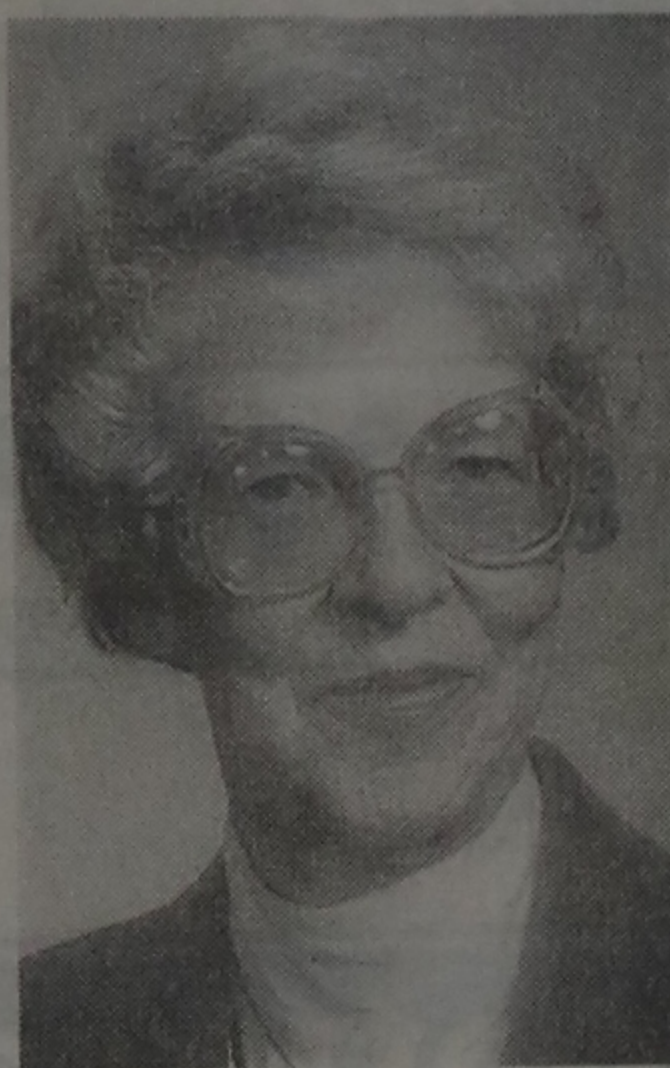
A passenger in the Adrianse vehicle, Martha Dorweiler, 64, of 408 Foster Drive, was taken to Iowa Methodist Medical Center, where she was treated and released.

Dorweiler is the mother of Kirke Dorweiler, who is president of Kirke-Van Orsdel Inc.

"We have all been in a state of shock all day," said her husband, Phillip Dorweiler, a lawyer with Ahlers Cooney Dorweiler Haynie Smith & Allbee. "If you look at the car, you can't believe my wife walked out of it alive."

He said his wife and Adrianse had been friends for 37 years, and Tuesday night they had been playing duplicate bridge.

"They were discussing bridge as they went into the intersection," he said. "My wife remembers the im-



Mary Adrianse

Had won cancer battle

pact but doesn't remember anything else until the car came to rest. The young man must not have seen

the light."

He said if his wife had not been wearing a seat belt, "this might have been a different story."

The impact pushed the Cadillac into a traffic signal on the southwest corner of the intersection, knocking down the signal lights.

Evidence

Des Moines Police Sgt. Judy Bradshaw said police have evidence that Rushing was intoxicated. Other traffic violations are pending.

A police check of Iowa Department of Transportation records shows that since 1987, Rushing has been charged with a seat-belt violation and at least two counts of not having a driver's license.

Dr. R.C. Wooters, Polk County medical examiner, said Adrianse has been fighting lung cancer for "upwards of a year." Wooters, a close friend of the family, said, "A week ago she had seen her doctor and had been given a clean bill of health."

Mary B. Adrianse, 63, of 3721 Lincoln Place Drive died Wednesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center of injuries sustained in an auto accident. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member, and burial will be in Glendale Cemetery.



Mrs. Adrianse was born in Chicago and moved to Des Moines in 1947 from Birmingham, Mich. She was a customer service representative for Kirke-Van Orsdel and a member of Junior League of Des Moines.

Surviving are her husband, John; two daughters, Sue Benson and Carolyn Olsen, both of Mankato, Minn.; two sons, Richard and James, and a brother, Chuck Betts, all of Des Moines; and seven grandchildren.

Friends may call after 5 p.m. today at Dunn's Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER ■ THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1993

RELIGION

'NEW URBAN FRONTIER'

OCT 23, 1993

D.M. church featured in book on thriving city congregations

The chapter on Plymouth was written by the Rev. James O. Gilliom, senior pastor since 1978.

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

In a day when the image of liberal Protestant churches is one of shrinking memberships, money woes and a survival mentality, a new book portrays a Des Moines church as a rare example of one that is growing and forthrightly liberal.

Lyle Schaller, often called America's leading authority on local church dynamics, picked Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave., as one of 14 case studies for "Center City Churches: The New Urban Frontier." Edited by Schaller, the book is one in a series on "Ministry for the Third Millennium."

"Contrary to conventional wisdom, it is possible for a center-city church to be both large and liberal. This was one reason for including Plymouth Church in Des Moines," wrote Schaller in a chapter on the recurring themes that were noted among the 14 churches.

Defied Decay

Schaller wrote that the 14 are all "high performance churches" in urban settings that have defied the decay besetting many of their neighboring congregations in an era of thriving suburban churches. The successful churches range from Pentecostal and fundamentalist to the liberal Des Moines church. Some are basically African-American or Asian in ethnic makeup. All have found ways to attract a following who find the churches relevant to their lives and needs.

Chapters on several churches were written by their pastors, including the one on Plymouth, written by the Rev. James O. Gilliom, senior pastor at Plymouth since 1978. Others were written by Schaller or other authors.

"Conventional wisdom in recent

years has declared that today's churches have two choices," wrote Gilliom. "They can be conservative and grow, or they can be liberal and decline. Plymouth is a testimony that liberalism and numerical growth are compatible."

He wrote that "Plymouth has stood for 135 years as a beacon of liberal Christianity — and it has grown to over (1,000) at worship on an average Sunday morning."

The statistics are impressive. Membership has grown from 2,500

“Because I am a lesbian, there are churches that have excluded me. For a long time I thought God was doing the excluding. Then I heard about Plymouth.”

— Plymouth church member

in 1981 to 3,200. Besides an average of 1,004 in worship, about 600 children, youth and adults are in Sunday education programs. The church has extensive music and fine arts programs, including 10 vocal choirs with nearly 500 voices, along with hand-bells choir and brass ensemble. A fine arts series is offered to the community.

Community Projects

Through money and muscle power, Plymouth members have engaged in numerous projects for community betterment, including feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless and remodeling buildings for low-income housing.

Seven support groups meet regularly, ranging from one for folks whose lives have been touched by Alzheimer's disease to ones for gays and lesbians, parents of deaf children and people whose spouses have died.

Faithful visitations by the pastoral staff, calling programs by mem-

ABOUT THE BOOK

"Center City Churches: The New Urban Frontier." Edited by Lyle Schaller. Abingdon Press, 187 pages, \$11.95

bers and regular surveys to keep tabs on new members are among tools keeping Plymouth moving forward, noted Gilliom.

From the pulpit and through his writings, Gilliom has dealt with touchy issues. In the book, he noted that he has had opinion articles published in The Des Moines Register "on such public issues as teaching creationism in the public schools, the Iowa rural crisis, abortion rights, Soviet-USA relations, condom advertising, televangelists, right-wing politics, the movie 'The Last Temptation of Christ,' and homosexuals."

"In the fall of 1990 The Des Moines Register featured Plymouth in a major week-long series on homosexuality. A few members left, but far more joined." He wrote that the new-member class in January 1991 was the largest in memory — a class of 55, compared with 26 in September before the church's openness to homosexual members was publicly highlighted.

To Gilliom, this experience belies "the assumption that heartland Iowans would not respond to a liberal presentation of the Christian gospel."

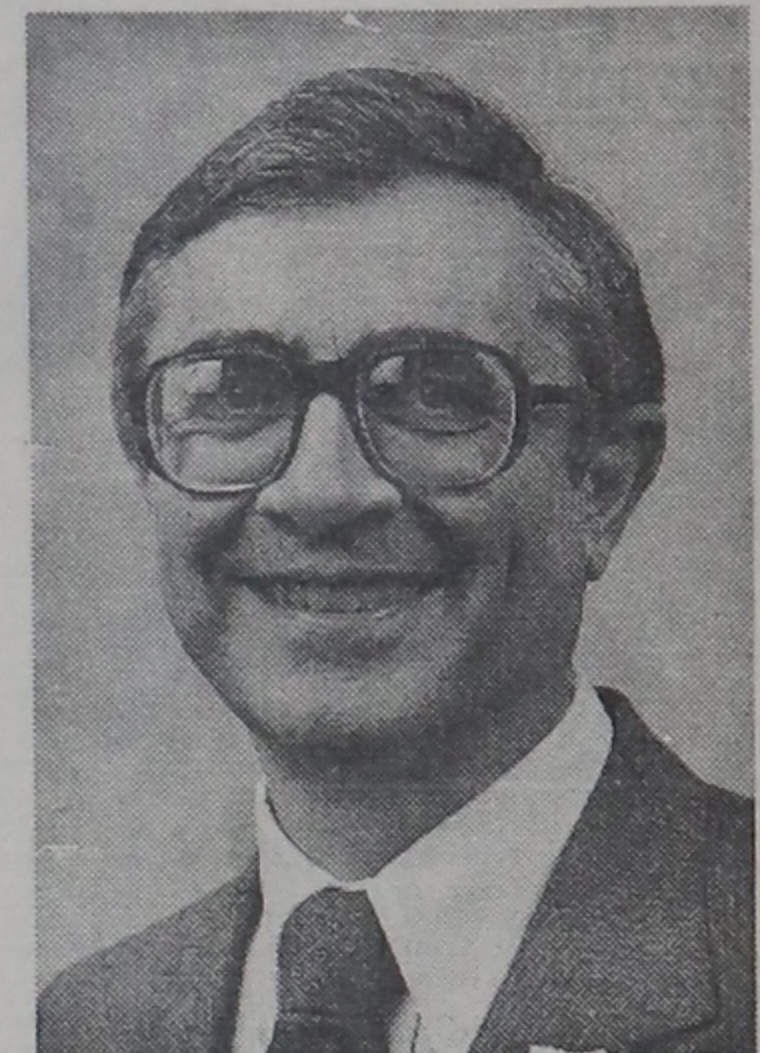
Reasons to Be Thankful

In a church celebration, Plymouth members were invited to send in reasons why they were thankful for Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

"The music is so wonderful. The sermons are easy to understand, and we get something out of them," said one member.

A second member praised "relevant sermons, excellent teaching for children, critical involvement in community."

And a third commented, "Because I am a lesbian, there are churches that have excluded me. For a long time I thought God was doing the ex-



Rev. James O. Gilliom

cluding. Then I heard about Plymouth. When I came here, I understood that it was not God, it was people who didn't understand God's words. My partner and I have been welcomed with open arms, and I feel like I have found a place to belong and want to be."

NEIGHBOR OF THE WEEK

Volunteer works for 'safe place'

By ED KINTZER

REGISTER CORRESPONDENT

"It is a calling for most of us."
"We represent our churches."
"One person can make a difference."

These are thoughts of Judy Anderson as she talks about two major tasks she promotes as a volunteer providing "a shelter of last resort" for the homeless in Des Moines.

Anderson, 50, of 5985 N.W. 61st Ave. in Johnston, is volunteer coordinator for the Salvation Army's canteen feeding project — "better known as the breakfast program," she says — and a board member of Churches United, providing an overnight shelter for the needy.

John Kuhn, 70, of 5811 Waterbury Road, a Salvation Army board member and a Churches United volunteer, says Anderson is a hard worker in both areas.

"I do not know anyone in Des Moines who helps the homeless more than Judy," Kuhn said.

"She not only helps feed the people, but she knows most of them by name. She does more than help to feed them, more than food for the body, she gives them a boost with words of encouragement."

Kuhn says Anderson works many hours a week coordinating the community volunteers, many recruited from church members and college and high school students.

"Judy has been instrumental from the beginning of Churches United, getting the overnight shelter program operating," Kuhn said.

Anderson believes everybody has a right to have a safe place to sleep at night.

"The people needing the most help are those society has deemed the least favorite," said Anderson.

She has the philosophy of "a global neighborhood" and adds, "We have a responsibility to take care of each other, to love each other."

Anderson has been with the Salvation Army breakfast program for almost five years. The canteen truck is on the road Tuesday and Friday from 5 to 8:30 a.m.

"We have a specific route; under bridges, abandoned buildings, the shelters and critical neighborhoods," she said.

The food comes from the Salvation Army, Bethel Mission, churches and



ED KINTZER/REGISTER CORRESPONDENT

Judy Anderson helps the homeless by volunteering for the Salvation Army and Churches United.

related organizations and individual donations. "It is a supplement for the food budgets of the needy," she explained.

Churches United was formed three years ago, and she encourages contributions to the program. "Boy, do we need help — money!"

Churches supporting the program are: Grace United Methodist Church (her church), 3700 Cottage Grove Ave.; First Christian Church, 2500 University Ave.; First United Methodist Church, 10th and Pleasant streets; First Lutheran Church, East Fifth and Des Moines streets; Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave.; Central Presbyterian Church, 3829 Grand Ave.; Basilica of St. John, 1915 University Ave.; St. John's Lutheran Church, Sixth Avenue and Keosauqua Way; and First Baptist Church, 620 Eighth St.

Anderson explained that for the first two years of the program, the location of the overnight shelter was determined on a rotating basis.

"A different church was used each night, so each morning we had to knock down the cots and take them to the next church," she said.

"The church provided the linens and meals. In the morning we took the people downtown because that is where the homeless live. Church people stayed up all night as supervisors."

Last winter, First Baptist Church became the shelter for a six-month period and this winter it will move to First Christian Church. Anderson's goal is for a year-round site, because "the entire population of homeless does not meet the criteria to qualify to get into existing shelters."

The former Judy Bennett is a 1961 graduate of East High School. She

attended Grand View College and Drake University. Her husband, Tom Leffler, is employed by Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc. in Johnston. She has two children, Martin Anderson of Portland, Ore., and Polly Anderson, a student at the University of Iowa.

Anderson said she has had a varied career, including: advertising and promotion with Successful Farming magazine, founder/director of drop-in child care at Grace United Methodist Church, the Iowa Civil Liberties Union, and sales representative with Metropolitan Life Insurance.

She presently is in the sales office of J.K. Business Forms Corp. at 8345 University Ave. in Clive.

TO NOMINATE a "Neighbor of the Week," write us at Neighbors, P.O. Box 957, Des Moines 50304.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Into the trees

The Blank Children's Hospital Festival of Trees celebrates 10 years with the 1993 display of trees and trimmings this week at the Des Moines Convention Center. Over the 10 years, the festival has raised more than \$1 million for the programs and services of Blank Children's Hospital.

This year's event begins with a gala celebration at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, when the trees will be lit. The gala is \$60 per person, and reservations are essential. Call (515) 241-6304.

The festival is open to the public from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. next Sunday. Various special events and activities are planned.

Tickets for the festival are \$2 if purchased by 5 p.m. Tuesday; \$3 at the door. Seniors and children 2 through 12 will be admitted for \$2 and those younger than 2 will be admitted free. Advance tickets are available today only at Valley West Mall and Merle Hay Mall; from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Kaleidoscope at the Hub downtown. Call (515) 241-6494.

'A Christmas Together'

John Denver's "A Christmas Together" holiday show will be at 8 p.m. Saturday in Stephens Auditorium in Ames. The show is family entertainment with Denver performing songs of the season in harmony with a local children's choir.

Tickets are \$25.25, \$30.25 and \$35.25, available at the Iowa State Center box office or Ticketmaster outlets.

Switch on the Holidays

The city of Des Moines will officially begin the holiday season with Switch on the Holidays beginning at



A beary nice tree at the Blank Children's Hospital festival.

4:30 p.m. Friday in Nollen Plaza, near the Des Moines Civic Center, and the adjoining Peace Park.

The Matins Choir from Plymouth Congregational Church of Christ and the brass ensemble will perform, leading the crowd in caroling. Free cookies, cocoa and hot cider will be served, and Santa will make his grand entrance. More than 10,000 lights on trees in Peace Park, as well as a 30-foot, Iowa-grown spruce tree will be lit in a ceremony.

Following the tree lighting, stroll down to Court Avenue for free chili tasting from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Local personalities will help serve the samples at each location. Call (515) 244-7211.

Concerts, gatherings and holiday services celebrate Advent spirit

More special programs and music await Des Moines area worshipers as the second week of Advent approaches Sunday. Coming events include:

• "Reflections for Advent," an Advent concert of piano, oboe and vocal music, 7 p.m. Sunday at Faith Lutheran Church, 10395 University Ave., Clive.

• "Deck the Hall with All That Jazz," 7 p.m. Sunday at First Christian Church, 2500 University Ave. Featured are the Unified Jazz Ensemble and vocalist Tea Manson.

• "The Many Moods of Christmas," a four-part presentation of Christmas carols and music, Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ choir and members of the Des Moines Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. today and 3 p.m. Sunday at the church, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Tickets for non-reserved seating are \$8; sponsor tickets, including seating in the front of the sanctuary, are \$15.

• A hand-bell concert, "A Touch of Grace Bells," at Grace United Methodist Church in Story City at 3 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$3.

• A Family Advent Celebration from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday at West Des Moines United Methodist Church, 720 Grand Ave., followed by a soup supper sponsored by church youths. There will be carols, crafts, cookies and activities for children and adults.

• Selections from Handel's "Messiah" by the Festival Chorus of First United Methodist Church, 1001 Pleasant St., at 10:30 a.m. service Sunday.

• The Peace Resource Center's annual Alternative Holiday Open House from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday at Friends House, 4211 Grand Ave. Craft items from several nations will be for sale and merchandise includes jewelry, coffee and nuts, weavings and hand-carved woodwork and stone. At least half of the income from the sale of the items is returned to the artists as part of a non-profit program of the Church of the Brethren General Board.

• "Songs & Poems of Mother & Father" featuring vocal solos interlarded with poetry at the 7 p.m. Mid-Week Noel Thursday

at Collegiate Presbyterian Church in Ames. A buffet lunch will begin at 12:40 p.m. Cost is \$4.

• Julefest, "A Ceremony of Carols," at Advent worship ceremonies of Lessons and Carols at 4 and 7:30 p.m. Sunday at Luther Memorial Church, 1201 Grandview Ave.

• "Expanding our Images: An Advent Service in Celebration of Women," 6 p.m. Sunday in the chapel of St. John's Lutheran Church, 601 Keosauqua Way.

• "A Celebration of Emmanuel — God With Us," a musical featuring choirs, cast and orchestra, 7 p.m. Dec. 10-12 at First Federated Church, 4801 Franklin Ave. Tickets are \$2.

• "A Festival of Carols," by choirs of Westchester Evangelical Free Church, 4919 Aurora Ave., 6 p.m. Sunday.

• "From Heaven's Throne," by The Living Christmas Tree of First Church of the Open Bible, 2200 Beaver Ave., 7 p.m. today and 6 p.m. Sunday.

• Soup suppers at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, followed by "Hymns of Advent" worship service, at Highland Park Lutheran Church, 147 E. Euclid Ave. Cost of soup supper is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children under 12.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Switch on the Holidays!

For the past nine years, the celebration has been the premier event introducing the holiday season in downtown Des Moines. Every year thousands of people, the young and the "young at heart," flock to Nollen Plaza to witness Santa "flipping the switch" for central Iowa's largest tree lighting ceremony.

That tradition continues...join your fellow Civic Center members and volunteers for *Switch on the Holidays* Friday, November 26, 1993, as Nollen Plaza comes alive with the holiday spirit. The holidays for Des Moines area residents truly begin when the 30-foot, Iowa-grown spruce tree and the 60 trees in the adjoining Peace Park are lit simultaneously with over 10,000 lights.

E.J. Giovannetti, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Civic Center, will serve as this year's program emcee. He summed up the event by saying "what is really moving about *Switch on the Holidays* is the fact that there are folks from all over central Iowa, all ages and backgrounds, that come together to celebrate the holiday season in that symbolic unity that characterizes our community."

The festivities begin at 4:30 p.m. Friday, November 26, with free goodies and caroling to favorite holiday songs. The Matin Choir from Plymouth Congregational Church and the Brass Ensemble will perform live and lead the caroling to such favorites as "White Christmas" and "Silver Bells." Free refreshments of cookies, cocoa and hot cider will be served. To the delight of the crowd, Santa's big entrance will highlight the afternoon.

To light up the spirit of giving, a "Mitten Tree" will be on hand and will be decorated with donated mittens, gloves and other winter outerwear. Donations will be accepted that afternoon prior to that



date at the Civic Center, with all items going to Very Important Partners (VIP). VIP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Iowa children who have found themselves involved in the court system for various reasons.

Also featured this year will be holiday story illustrations by participating local school children. Through their schools, children were encouraged to showcase their creative abilities to interpret a holiday story of their choosing. Winning illustrations will be displayed in Capital Square, skywalk level. Prizes have been donated and an impartial drawing of all participants will be held to distribute prizes.

A Civic Center of Greater Des Moines sponsored event, *Switch on the Holidays* is supported in part by donations from various Des Moines area businesses and is hosted by the Civic Center Volunteer Council.

12/7/93

Church selects a new minister

The transition process to be used is as unusual as the selection process.

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

The 3,000-plus member Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, with a national reputation for growth in an era of sharp membership losses for most liberal Protestant churches, has ended a six-month search by naming the Rev. David Ruhe of Omaha as its new senior minister.

Search committee members said Ruhe, 44, will maintain the Plymouth tradition of worship and preaching that reaches both head and heart and its emphasis on social action and community betterment.



Ruhe
"Energizing"

He has been senior minister of the 1,000-member First Central Congregational United Church of Christ in Omaha for 15 years, taking the post at age 28.

Ruhe will succeed the Rev. James Gilliom, 64, senior minister at the church at 4126 Ingersoll Ave. since 1978, who will retire in April. An unusual transition process will follow an unusual selection process.

Double-Teamed Services

Gilliom told church officials in May 1992 that he wished to retire in early 1994. In order that the church "not miss a beat" in the long interim that usually follows a resignation, he urged the selection be made while he was still on the job.

Ruhe will join the church staff March 16. He will participate "from the pew" until the April 3 Easter services, where he will give the pastoral prayer and Gilliom will preach. Gilliom and Ruhe will have a service of "endings and beginnings" April 10, and Gilliom will retire April 15. In a letter to church members, David Nelson, chairman of the search committee, praised both min-

isters for the "vision and courage" of the unusual procedure.

"I am absolutely delighted with our find," Nelson said Monday. Other search committee members praised the choice.

"Like Jim (Gilliom), he is self-effacing and very bright. I believe we are called to each other," said committee member Robert Allbee.

"There's no one else we know of in the United States who compares with him," said Kay McCollum.

The church was filled Sunday night when the congregation was able to meet Ruhe and his wife, Dr. Priscilla Ruhe, a family-practice physician, and to vote on the new minister.

"Belly Laugh"

Ruhe then gave his thoughts on moving to the fourth-largest congregation in the 1.5-million-member denomination and following the popular Gilliom.

"The events this vote sets in motion fill me with eager expectation and stark terror, which flow through me a little bit like alternating current," Ruhe said. "The combi-

nation, I assure you, is energizing."

Here are some of Ruhe's comments about himself and ministry in documents submitted to the search committee:

- "The life of the church is punctuated with moments of inadvertent absurdity. Part of the delight in ministry is learning to spot such moments, to lift them up in love, and to allow them to give us the sort of perspective-restoring belly laugh we so often sorely need."

- "I think of myself as a Theologian in Residence, helping people relate their faith to the ebb and flow of their lives."

- "I have a raging sense of humor, particularly with respect to the sort of pious pretense which can make church work dreary."

He is a graduate of Grinnell College and Yale University Divinity School, and has a doctorate from Eden Theological Seminary. The couple has two sons, Jonathan, 10, and Paul, 7. He has a son, Eric, 21, by a previous marriage.

12-28-93

Miriam C. Diehl, 83, of 2909 Woodland Ave. died Monday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center of pneumonia. Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Plymouth Congregational Church, where she was a member. Burial will follow at the Masonic Cemetery.



Mrs. Diehl was born in Des Moines and was a lifelong resident. She had been employed by Northwestern Bell and was a homemaker. During World War II she operated her husband's insurance business, Crawford, Rumland, Kastberg and Diehl. She was a volunteer for the Des Moines public schools and was a member of PEO Q Chapter and Kappa Kappa Gamma.

Survivors include three sons, John of St. Paul, Minn., James of Minneapolis and Thomas of Iowa City; one daughter, Susan Diehl of Burlington; a sister, Frances Ratcliffe of West Des Moines; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be sent for book acquisition at Franklin Avenue Public Library.

12-10-93

B. Sheldon Goreham, 78, of Naples, Fla., and 4901 Harwood Drive died of a heart attack Wednesday in Glenview, Ill.



Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Dunn's Funeral Home in Des Moines, with burial in Resthaven Cemetery.

Mr. Goreham was born in Grinnell and had lived in Des Moines since 1937. He was the retired owner and chairman of the board of Mid-Central Plastics Inc. and had been president of the National Association of Cost Accountants in Des Moines. He served on the board of Iowa Manufacturers Association and the Governor's Board of Economic Advisors and was a member of West Des Moines Rotary Club, Za-Ga-Zig Shrine and Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Surviving are his wife, Thelma; a daughter, Dolores Staples of West Des Moines; two sons, Richard of West Des Moines and William of La Jolla, Calif.; two stepdaughters, Jacquelyn Janisch of Manchester, Mass., and Suzanne Aleshire of Winnetka, Ill.; two stepsons, Douglas Mulder of Dallas, Texas, and Robert Mulder of Ames; a sister, Elsie Poynter of Denver, Colo.; a brother, Kenneth of Junction City, Kan.; 24 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family will visit with friends from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Iowa Heart Association.

12/10/93

Janna Nollen Bragg, 76, of 3306 Elmwood Drive died of cancer Wednesday at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial of the cremains will be in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mrs. Bragg, a homemaker, lived in Des Moines most of her life. She was a member of the Des Moines Founders Garden Club, Junior League and Des Moines Children's Home, had served on the boards of Visiting Nurses Association and Roadside Settlement and was past chairman of the women's division of United Way.

Survivors include her husband, James; and a sister, Sara Kassander of Tucson, Ariz.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or the American Cancer Society. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

12/10/93

Irene Stewart Grenetzky, 89, of 4107 Lincoln Place Drive died of a stroke Wednesday at home. The body was donated to the University of Iowa for medical research, and no services are planned.



Mrs. Grenetzky was born in River Falls, Wis., and moved to Des Moines in 1950 from Council Bluffs. She was a former high-school teacher and had been a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, PEO chapter EH, Des Moines Women's Club and Des Moines Garden Club.

A brother, Wayne Stewart of River Falls, survives.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church's building fund or the Alzheimer's Disease Association. Arrangements were handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.

12/11/93

Margaret E. Lory, 94, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of a heart ailment there Friday. Memorial services will be at 1:30 p.m. today at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Entombment of the cremains will be in Masonic Cemetery Mausoleum at a later date.

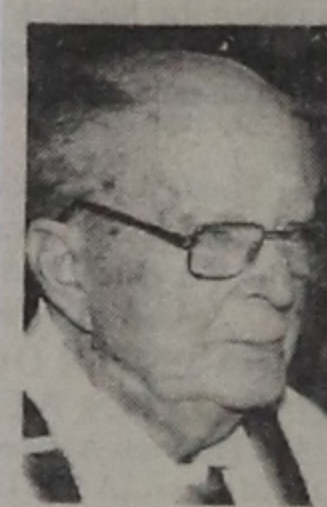
Mrs. Lory was born in Eau Galle, Wis., and moved to Des Moines in 1929. She retired as a science teacher at Harding Junior High School.

Surviving are two daughters, Jean Lory of Santa Cruz, Calif., and Joan Mathews of Ames; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or the Scottish Rite Park memorial fund. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

12-7-93

Mark R. Woods, 85, of 227 S.W. 42nd St. died of cancer Monday at home. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, with private burial of the cremains in Glendale Cemetery.



Mr. Woods was born in Chicago and moved to Des Moines in 1948. He retired as manager of Standard Paint and Glass Co. and was a member of the United Church of Christ.

Surviving are his wife, Madeline; two sons, Robert of Cedar Rapids and William of Des Moines; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

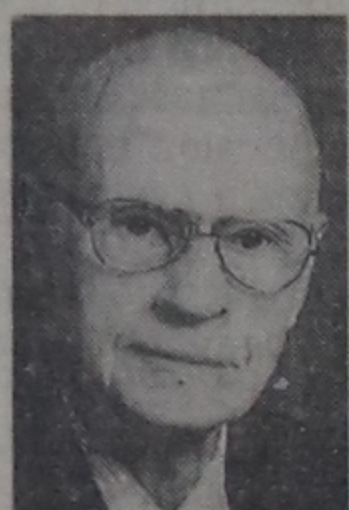
Memorial contributions may be made to his church or the American Cancer Society. Dunn's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Astronomy prof Riggs dies of cancer

By OTTO KNAUTH
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Philip Riggs, retired professor of astronomy at Drake University, died of cancer Thursday at his son's home in Des Moines. He was 87.

Mr. Riggs came to Drake in 1947 as professor and head of the Department of Astronomy after the retirement of Daniel Forehouse. His 39-year career at the school spanned some of



Riggs
Star man

the most turbulent years in the science of astronomy since Galileo first used a telescope to look at the heavens in 1609.

The space age brought an explosion of knowledge as close-up photographs of the planets revealed some of their mysteries. Ever-larger optical and radio telescopes explored the infinities and men walked on the moon. Textbooks became obsolete almost as soon as they were published. This was the material Professor Riggs had to impart to his students. He required a nimble mind and an enthusiastic dedication to his science simply to keep up. Mr. Riggs had plenty of both.

Many of his students saw the night sky in all its wonders for the first time under his guidance. A favorite method of his was to take a group of freshmen for a night drive into the countryside around Des Moines. He would find a spot away from city and farm lights — not an easy thing — then have his students look up.

Many came from such cities as Chicago and Milwaukee where city lights obscured all but the brightest stars. "Wow!" was the universal reaction as they saw such wonders as the Milky Way for the first time.

Mr. Riggs was best known for the public lectures he gave each spring and fall in the Drake Municipal Observatory at Waveland Park. A couple of generations of Des Moines children — and their parents — got their first look at the rings of Saturn or the craters of the moon through an 8¼-inch telescope. He gave his final lecture in June 1976.

One of the goals Mr. Riggs set for himself was to see a total eclipse of the sun, the most awe-inspiring spectacle in the sky. After several failed attempts, he succeeded in May 1970, in North Carolina.

Mr. Riggs, a resident of McAuley Terrace at 5921 Winwood Drive in Johnston, was born in Chicago. He graduated in 1927 with a bachelor of science degree in physics from Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie-Mellon University) in Pittsburgh, and earned his Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1944. Before his career at Drake, he was an instructor in astronomy at Washburn College, Topeka, Kan., acting instructor at the University of Illinois, and head of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Washburn.

He was a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, the Des Moines Torch Club, the American Astronomical Society, the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, the Iowa Academy of Science and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Survivors include two sons, Arthur of Berkeley, Calif., and Norman; two brothers, Paul of Columbia, Mo., and William of West Nyack, N.Y.; and two grandchildren.

The body was donated to the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences and memorial services will be 11 a.m. Friday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church. Arrangements are being handled by Westover Funeral Home.

Lorna Williams, lawyer and instructor, dies at 78

By MATT KELLEY
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Lorna Williams, a trailblazing lawyer and a former Drake University law instructor, died of cancer Sunday at Iowa Lutheran Hospital. She was 78.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Dunn's Funeral Home, with burial at Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Mrs. Williams, of 529 46th St., graduated from Drake Law School in 1941 and returned there to teach during World War II, when other faculty members were serving in the armed forces.

From 1966 to 1979, she was a special assistant attorney for the state, and she was one of the first women in Iowa to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

David Walker, dean of the Drake Law School, called Mrs. Williams "a bright and giving person." He said that she was an excellent student at a time when female lawyers were a rarity and that her assistance during the war was invaluable to the school. "She came to the aid of the school at a very critical time in Drake's history," he said.

Joseph A. Coppola, a student of Mrs. Williams', said she was as dedicated to her teaching as she was to her students. "She was always a very independent, hard working, driving, good attorney," Coppola said.

Mrs. Williams was a member of the American, Iowa and Polk County bar associations; the Drake Alumni Association; the Plymouth Congregational Church of Christ; the American Legion Auxiliary; and the Order of the Eastern Star.

Survivors include her husband, Carl; a son, Rod of Des Moines; two sisters, Mary Crow of West Des Moines and Bessie Bryan of St. Paul, Minn.; and three brothers, Robert Lawhead of San Jose, Calif., Wendell Lawhead of Waukegan, Ill., and Donald Lawhead of Mesa, Ariz.

Visitation will be from 7 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home. Contributions may be made to Drake Law School or the Iowa Cancer Society.

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RELIGION

How Churches Face A Disaster

Pastors urge flocks to put trust in God

Congregations are focusing on a combination of prayer and relief efforts.

By **WILLIAM SIMBRO**
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

Pastors — like everyone else — awakened Sunday to the numbing news that overnight the impossible had become the reality.

The Flood of the Century had left many churches without electricity, some had no telephone service and 250,000 people would be without water for at least a week. Some churches were

flooded. Quick decisions were made at many churches to cancel services on grounds of safety, sanitation and uncertainty about what might happen next. Most that held services had few worshipers.

At St. Augustin's Roman Catholic Church, those at the 8 a.m. Mass worshiped by flashlights and candles. At the noon Mass, the Rev. Philip Hobt said he had awakened at 6:30 a.m., flipped a light switch and discovered there was no power. "I wondered how we would have the 8 o'clock Mass," Hobt said. "I said I would worry about that after a shower." There was no shower.



Harms
"Seek good"

bottled drinking water to Wesley Acres, a United Methodist retirement center. Minburn United Methodist Church trucked 1,000 gallons of water to Grace United Methodist Church. A Chillicothe, Mo., church youth group delivered water to Hawthorn Hill, which houses church-related service agencies.

Spiritual Needs

Pastors stressed the importance of resuming worship. "The community of faith needs to gather, affirming our hope and our need to support each other and acknowledge there is a spiritual and religious dimension that never deserts us," said the Rev. Alden Hebard, an associate pastor at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

"Between services we will have opportunity to gather and share our stories with each other," said the Rev. Elton Richards, the senior pastor at St. John's Lutheran, 601 Keosauqua Way.

The Rev. Bill Hornback, pastor of West Des Moines Church of the Open Bible went into the pulpit after a



Hebard
"Affirm hope"



Richards
Sharing

Frustration

Pastors felt the frustration of not having their flocks together at a time when they most needed faith, hope and a sense of dependence on God and interdependence on each other.

For some, the disaster brought troubling thoughts about why a loving God would allow — or cause — such calamity.

By midweek it appeared most — maybe all — churches not directly flooded would have services Sunday.

The Rev. Forrest Harms, executive director of the Des Moines Area Religious Council, sent a plea to the council's 145 member-congregations urging immediate contributions of food or cash for its Emergency Food Pantry at 3816 36th St.

A group of evangelical pastors launched a Christian Relief Effort and invited all churches to join in its program of counseling, raising money, collecting furniture and other volunteer efforts. A Flood Relief Rally will be held at First Federated Church, 4801 Franklin Ave., at 7 p.m. Sunday.

Congregations rallied around members hit hard by the flood; national religious relief organizations geared up to aid flood victims in Iowa and other Midwest states; and help poured in from churches around the nation. Examples: Louisiana United Methodists sent a van with 770 cases — 4,620 gallons — of

night of helping flooded-out church members and knowing his parents had lost everything in the flooding in Ottumwa.

"Our faith is never stronger than in the bad times," he said before the service. "It is time for us who believe to put our trust in God fully and not shake our fist at him." In his sermon he called for prayer and actions to help others. He also suggested calamities may be punishment for evil ways.

Citing Midwest floods and searing heat and drought elsewhere, Hornback observed: "You don't slap God in the face and become as decadent as our nation has and not suffer the consequences. The church has sat idly by and not sought the Lord."

Harms, the religious council director and a Reformed Church in America minister, had different thoughts this week.

"It doesn't have anything to do with God abandoning us," Harms said. "It is part of the natural phenomena as we are caught under a cloud, literally and figuratively. Our theology doesn't allow us to think that if we were doing everything right, God wouldn't be putting all this rain on us."

Harms called the flooding "a time of real testing. It is a time to look for what good can come out of disaster."

Virginia Tippee, 92, of Cal Manor, 4210 Hickman Road, died of a heart ailment there Monday. Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Private burial of the remains will be in Resthaven Cemetery.



Mrs. Tippee, a homemaker, was born in Gretna, Neb., and moved to Des Moines in 1923 and the care center eight years ago.

She is survived by two sons, John "Jock" Wallace of Des Moines and Ross Wallace of Richardson, Texas; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to her church or the Good Samaritan fund at Calvin Manor. Dunn's Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Marjorie Bell Wellman, 76, of 3000 Grand Ave. died of cancer Wednesday at Hospice Kavanagh House. Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which she was a member. Burial will be in Laurel Hill Cemetery.



Mrs. Wellman, a homemaker, lived in Des Moines all her life and was an Iowa Lutheran Hospital volunteer and auxiliary member.

She is survived by her husband, West; a daughter, Julie Steele, and her mother, Mary Vaughn, both of Des Moines; two stepsons, John Wellman of Des Moines and Richard Wellman of Davenport; two stepdaughters, Mari Roth of Mound, Minn., and Debbie DeMaris of Omaha; two grandchildren; and 13 step-grandchildren.

Friends may call after 2 p.m. today at Westover Funeral Home, where the family will meet friends from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Matins Youth Choir at her church or Hospice Kavanagh House.

■ **Discovery course.** The Artist's Way, a workshop featuring author Julia Cameron, will be from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Plymouth Congregational Church. The workshop is a course in self-discovery, an effort to find creativity.

Registration for Friday evening is \$45, Saturday \$120, both \$160. Call (515) 255-3446 or (800) 551-9453.

■ **The Des Moines Area Ministerial Association** will meet at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. Judy Brutz with Friends Family Service will speak on "Clergy

The Artist's Way

with author Julia Cameron
A Course in Discovering
and Recovering Your
Creative Self

Friday, Oct. 8, 6:30-10 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
\$145 (before Oct. 1)

Plymouth Congregational Church

Saturday only \$120
Friday only: \$45

To register call:

Julie Gammack
255-3446 or 1-800-551-9453

Harris M. Coggeshall, attorney, dies at 85

Harris M. Coggeshall, the only tennis player in the Des Moines Sunday Register Sports Hall of Fame, died of pneumonia Saturday at Mercy Hospital Medical Center. He was 85.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Dunn's Funeral Home. The body was cremated.



Coggeshall
Hall of Famer

Mr. Coggeshall, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., was a lifelong Des Moines resident. He retired in 1984 after 45 years as a lawyer with Bradshaw, Fowler, Proctor and Fairgrave.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II and a member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Harvard Alumni Club and Polk County and American Bar associations.

Mr. Coggeshall was an outstand-

ing tennis player. Besides winning numerous state championships, he reached the singles and doubles finals of the national grass-court junior tournament at age 17.

In 1929, he reached the doubles final of the national indoor tournament and in 1930, reached the doubles final of the national clay-court championships. At age 70, he was ranked eighth nationally in his age group.

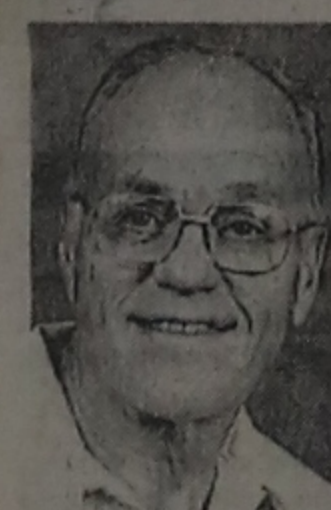
Mr. Coggeshall's induction into The Sunday Register's hall of fame came in 1959. He also was a member of the Iowa Tennis Hall of Fame, Missouri Valley Tennis Association Hall of Fame and the B'nai B'rith Sports Hall of Fame.

Surviving are his wife, Harriet Lou; a son, Harris F. of West Des Moines; a daughter, Cynde Fanter of Des Moines; a sister, Katharine DeLong of Grinnell; and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the YMCA of Greater Des Moines or Grinnell College.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER ■ TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 1993

Harold G. Nelson, 76, of 3000 Grand Ave. died of cancer Monday at Iowa Lutheran Hospital. The body



was cremated and memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, of which he was a member.

Mr. Nelson, a lifelong Des Moines resident, retired as manager of delivery services for the U.S. Postal Service and was a veteran of the military.

He is survived by his wife, Louise; two sons, Donald of Des Moines and Robert of Belleair, Fla.; a sister, Miriam Anderson of Cromwell, Conn.; three grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to YMCA, his church or Hospice of Central Iowa. Arrangements are being handled by Hamilton's Funeral Home.

THE DES MOINES REGISTER ■ THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1993

Valma G. Risser, 94, of Scottish Rite Park, 2909 Woodland Ave., died of a respiratory ailment there Saturday. Graveside services will be at 11:30 a.m. today in Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Risser was born in Des Moines and returned in the early 1950s after living briefly in Pasadena, Calif. She was the retired vice president of Risser Investment Co. and had been a member of Des Moines Club, Order of the Eastern Star and Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

Surviving are a son, William of Des Moines; a daughter, Marilyn Holland of Newport Beach, Calif.; and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Scottish Rite Park. Arrangements are being handled by Dunn's Funeral Home.



What D.M. minister would tell Cal Thomas

I would warn Thomas that he would be confronted by a God who tries to break more truth through ignorance and prejudice.

If columnist Cal Thomas inquired about joining a church of which I was minister, I would advise him that it would be an unhappy decision for him. For he would meet a different God. He would meet a God who has often been misunderstood and misrepresented because of biblical literalism.

Slavery was condoned and even blessed for years by Christians who quoted Ephesians 6:5, "Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling." Women were relegated to inferior positions with the justification of I Corinthians 14:34, "Women should be silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be subordinate."

I would remind Thomas of how so-called Christian teachings created the hatred of Jews that made possible the unspeakable evil of the Holocaust during the Hitler era. Centuries of traditional teachings about Jews as Christ-killers helped shape the public environment in which derogatory stereotypes and hateful epithets were acceptable. Jews were considered, with religious acquiescence in one of the

nominally most Christian nations of the world, to be subhuman. The majority of German people either participated in the demonic atrocities or looked the other way.

I would warn Thomas that he would be confronted by a God of continuing revelation, whose last word has not been spoken and who continually tries to break more truth through human ignorance and prejudice.

Pastor John Robinson said to the Pilgrims when they sailed for America seeking religious freedom in both personal beliefs and church dogma, "The Lord has more truth and light yet to break forth."

The great Protestant reformer Martin Luther, when charged with heresy, replied, "Unless I am convicted by Scripture and *plain reason* (emphasis added) — I do not accept the authority of popes and councils."

American poet James Russell Lowell expressed the religious conviction of many Christians who came to be abolitionists prior to the Civil War:

New occasions teach new duties,

*Time makes ancient good uncouth;
They must upward still and onward,*

Who would keep abreast of truth.

I would advise Thomas of my belief in a God who speaks through human intelligence and experience. It was 20 years ago that the American Psychiatric Association reversed its "intelligence," voting:

"Whereas homosexuality per se implies no impairment in judgment, stability, reliability or general social or vocational capabilities, therefore, be it resolved that the American Psychiatric Association deplores all public and private discrimination against homosexuals."

I would share with him my experience of knowing many homosexuals who have been exemplary Christians and church members, bearing quietly and unjustly the burden of erroneous stereotyping.

For instance, one is that the public acceptance of the reality of homosexuality will increase incidents of child molestation. The evidence belies the

prejudice. Homosexuals are no more likely to molest children than are heterosexuals. Would Thomas stereotype all heterosexuals because of the Tailhook scandal of the American Navy or the rapes by Serbian soldiers?

I would, if Thomas were still listening, list the hundreds of history's most creative artists who were known to be homosexual, and the even larger number known in our day of increasing openness who are in all sectors of our public life performing their duties as all others.

Thomas asked in his April 28 column, "After gay rights, what will be next?" I would answer that what will be next will simply be the experience of justice for another minority in our society that has been cruelly suppressed and discriminated against, particularly by some of those who wrongly claim all truth in the name of God.

JAMES O. GILLIOM is senior minister at Plymouth Congregational Church, Des Moines.

THE ALASKA REGISTER SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1992

RELIGION

NORTH TO ALASKA

Church organist answers call of the wild

The time off will allow her to recharge her batteries and finish her compositions.

By **WILLIAM SIMBRO**
REGISTER RELIGION WRITER

Ministers, musicians and members of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ Sunday will remember and celebrate 13 years of inspiring organ music, a gentle off-wall sense of humor and frequent reminders that animals are God's creatures, too.

It is all because organist Phyllis Mains, feeling the effects of "burn-out," is leaving Plymouth and her many friends there, including bats that can be found roosting in the upper reaches of the historic church at 4126 Ingersoll Ave.

Though the people — and maybe the bats — will miss her, the grizzly bears in Alaska's Yukon wilderness can look forward to a visit from the petite Mains, who has promised family and friends she will make every effort to observe the bears "from a safe distance" as she backpacks.

Mains, 50, calls her departure from the organ console a retirement. But she concedes that after several months in the wilderness and some time spent in preparing her compositions for publication, she probably would accept a job as church organist if the schedule were less demanding.

Not Glamorous

"A church organist is the most creative musical position, other than as a jazz musician, that one could have," Mains said. "A jazz musician is glamorous and a church organist isn't. But you have the ability to be creative in so many ways," she said.

"There are all kinds of exciting ways to present a hymn so that people will be inspired to sing. You can improvise and compose introductions to create the mood of prayer or praise. There are all kinds of interludes to create an atmosphere. The organ is the glue that holds the service together."

For several years, Mains, an Episcopalian, was part-time organist both at Plymouth Congregational and at Tifereth Israel Synagogue. "I



GARY FANDEL/THE REGISTER

Phyllis Mains will be at this keyboard for the last time Sunday

appreciate differences. It enriched my religious experience," Mains said. She became full-time organist at Plymouth two years ago.

"Organ playing is my soul, and music is part of my spirituality," she said. But the problem is that in a large church with a vast music program "you spend most of your time with one of the least creative aspects, choir accompaniment."

Not Much Time Left

She has accompanied four of the church's nine choirs, directed two hand-bell choirs and coordinated instrumental music for the church. With funerals and weddings and her regimen of four to five hours of practice seven days per week, it left little time for creation and composition.

"So I have felt stifled. That leads to burnout and that's where I ended. This is one of the most outstanding churches I could have ever served, but it is an awful lot of work," she said.

In a recent issue of *The Contact*, the church's newsletter, the Rev. James Gilliom, senior pastor, wrote: "A uniquely gifted artist, Phyllis has also been loved for her rare sense of humor, her passion for all animals and nature and her impatience with pomposity. Her whimsical column in this paper has been one of its most popular features."

Even in the farewell installment of her column, "Organ Pipings," there was a touch of Mains' wit. Explaining she planned to backpack alone four months in Canada and Alaska, she noted, "I know Jesus needed only 40 days in the wilderness, but after all Jesus wasn't an organist." Her final words were on a familiar theme: "Last but not least, remember the Plymouth organ in your will."

Bats in the Belfry

Her columns were peppered with her love for animals — including the church's bats — and her humor.

"I sometimes see the humor in things where I shouldn't see humor," Mains said. She recalled a meal served at an Iowa farm for a choir that was on tour. "There was this huge spread of ham, turkey, chicken, beef. I thought to myself, 'they've killed off the whole neighborhood for us,'" said Mains, a vegetarian.

In a column during Lent, she noted that most bats catch up to 600 mosquitoes an hour and "This is why you worship in a bug-free environment." She said they also pollinate many plants. So during Lent she urged, "Remember the sacredness of things — which include our bats. The bat you spare may very well save your own life."

Refresher

Mains said the month or so each summer that she has spent backpacking in the wilderness "is where I get my balance. It refreshes my spirit. It is a different experience to be alone in an environment where you are minuscule. It helps me realize my place in the scheme and see the natural order and where I fit in. As a species, we rely on each other."

Her husband Michael frequently joins her for the last week or two of her wilderness experiences.

"Mike is a real man," she said. "He encourages me to go follow my dream. He is very supportive."

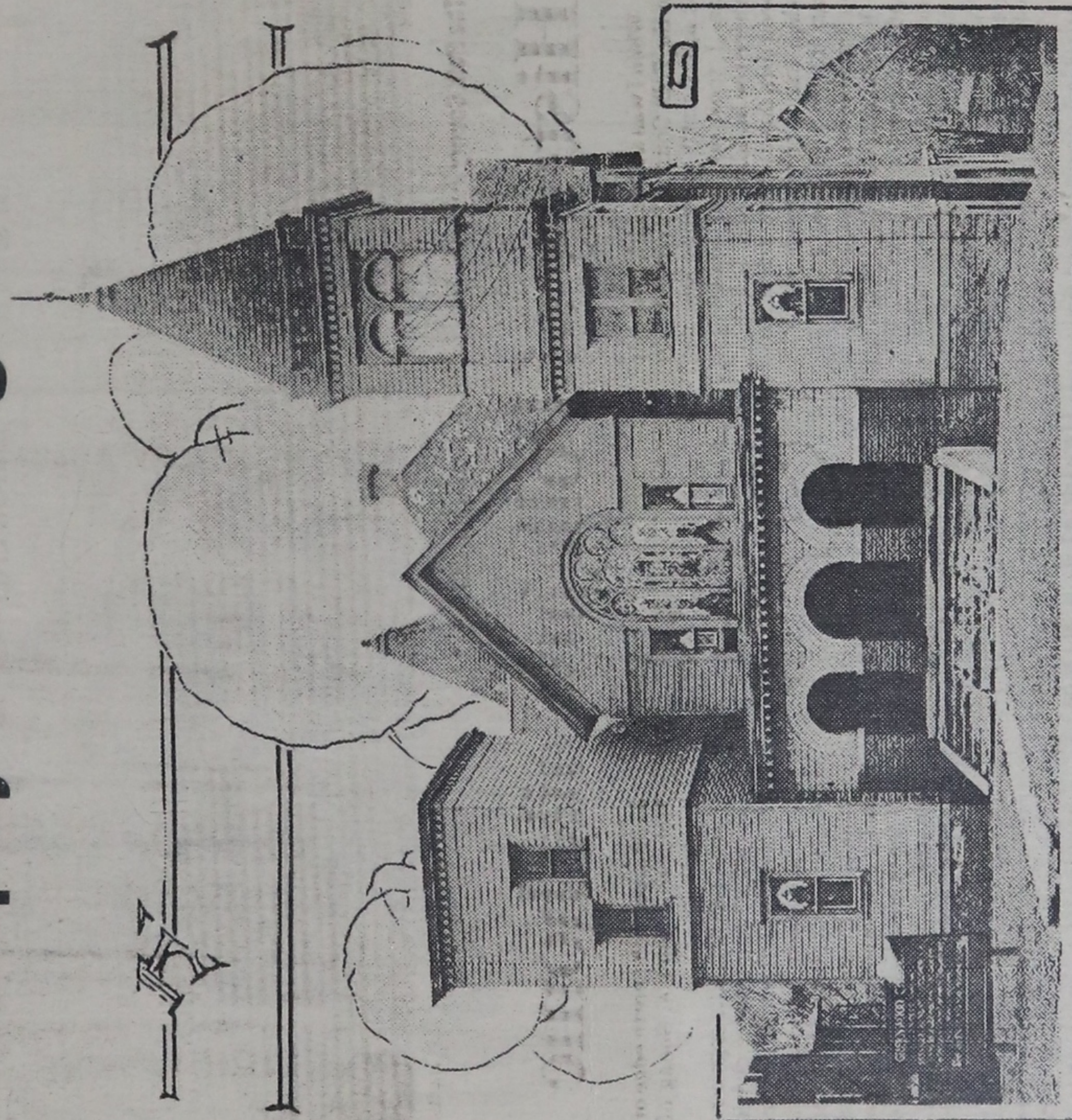
Mains' creativity includes painting as well as music. She's looking forward to a lot of use of a backpacking watercolor paint set given to her by one of the choirs.

A favorite painting of hers is two of Plymouth's bats, which she named Fred and Anna. The painting seems to feature one aspect of the church — the organ pipes.

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

A look at the people and events that have shaped Des Moines

The play's the thing in D.M.



The old Greenwood Congregational Church was the first home for the Des Moines Playhouse.

THE REGISTER

By RUTH GATTI

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

The story of the beginning of the Des Moines Community Playhouse is almost as romantic as any play that might be performed on its stage.

It began in 1919 when a group of about 40 enthusiasts formed the Little Theater Association, which changed its name to the Des Moines Community Drama Association in 1926. The group performed its productions at various locations around town, including Hoyt Sherman Place.

However, without a permanent home, the organization began to languish and there was talk of disbanding unless a theater of its own could be found.

The group decided to launch a fund-raising campaign to raise \$10,000 — a lot of money in those days. Theatrical people always have had a strong belief in "angels" and, fortunately, one came through for the Drama Association in the person of former Gov. N.E. Kendall. That's where the romance comes in.

In 1926, Kendall and his wife, Belle, had been on a European tour when she died in Naples, Italy. Belle Kendall, who had been described as having "great personal beauty, but who was quiet and retiring," had performed in several amateur productions and was a strong supporter of theater as well as many other cultural and intellectual pursuits in the city.

The following year, Kendall, in memory of his wife, contributed \$5,000 to the theater group's campaign, enabling it to purchase and equip the old Greenwood Congregational Church building on the west side of 35th Street between Ingersoll and Grand Avenues.

Named for Belle Kendall

The theater promptly was christened the Belle Kendall Memorial Community Playhouse. The first director was Pearl Bennett Broxman, who was well known in amateur theatrics and had been a director and drama teacher at West High

School, at Des Moines University and Drake University, and who later had her own studio.

The first production in the Kendall theater was a mystery called "In the Next Room." It was the first of six productions that season. Charles Cowrie and Clarence "Dutch" Schmidt had major roles, and tickets cost \$1. The building seated approximately 300 people — in church pews.

At the time it acquired the Kendall theater in 1927, the Drama Association had approximately 500 members. One of the most significant productions given there was a play entitled "The Last Mile," an intense drama of inmates in the death house of an Oklahoma prison.

Famed Chicago attorney, Clarence Darrow, a lifelong foe of capital punishment, attended and was unable to remain for the entire performance because of its realism. He paid tribute to the players for their performances. One of the inmates was played by novelist MacKinlay Kantor.

In 1937, the first play produced by the federal theater project in Iowa, "Blind Alley," was given at the Kendall. The play contributed to the effort to organize a national theater under the Works Progress Administration.

With an increase in membership, the Drama Association began to discuss plans for either remodeling the playhouse or building a new theater. In 1939, a fire in the basement kitchen did \$3,000 to \$5,000 damage and served to strengthen such discussions.

In 1946, the planned site for a theater was disclosed when the Drama Association requested a zoning change for property at the southeast corner of 35th Street and Woodland Avenue from residential to commercial. The property had been purchased from the J.S. Wilson Floral Co.

Neighbors Complained

But plans to erect a \$150,000 community theater building in the residential area drew heavy fire. Neighbors complained of traffic congestion and smoke nuisance

from the proposed building's heating plant, and commercialization of a residential area.

In the end, the City Council approved the change, but the flap proved to be much ado about nothing. In 1950 the Drama Association announced it had purchased the Roosevelt Movie Theater at 831 42nd St. for \$85,000 from Clyde T. Brand and Elaine Brand Ford, and would sell its site at 35th Street and Woodland Avenue.

In February 1952, a drive to raise \$100,000 to help pay for the new building and for its remodeling was held. It was the first time in its 33 years that the theater group had to ask for public support.

The last movie performance at the old Roosevelt theater was on July 9, 1952, and The Des Moines Community Playhouse was officially dedicated Jan. 11, 1953. It opened two days later with its first production, "The Happy Time." By then the association had 4,210 members.

Recalled Small Stage

All of the amateurs involved in the playhouse performances were happy to be in a more spacious environment. Longtime playhouse director Verner Haldene reminisced about the old Kendall stage, saying it was so small actors could not do a regular "crossover" to get from one side of the stage to another without going out one wing, walking around outside behind the theater, climbing a ladder on the other side and then coming back on stage from the opposite wing.

This, said Haldene, was especially a problem during inclement weather.

In October 1953, the Kendall theater was razed for salvage lumber. The building had been built in 1899 and housed the old Greenwood Congregational Church, until it merged with Plymouth Congregational Church.

When Gov. Kendall presented his gift to the Drama Association back in 1927, he had said, "I am confident they will build up a notable institution in Des Moines."

And so they did.

Sources for this story were Des Moines Register articles.

Religious look to God for solace, support, sanity

Pastors urge people to help. 'The evil you do stays with you,' one says, 'but the good returns to you.'

By WILLIAM SIMBRO
and TOM CARNEY
REGISTER STAFF WRITERS

Sunday was a day for bone-tired, discouraged, flood-weary Iowans to seek the solace and hope of religion in a time of disaster.

There were sermons on pulling together and helping each other, sermons on the flooding as an expression of God's judgment, and sermons combining those themes.

Many churches distributed forms for members to fill out, listing ways they could help others and ways in which they needed help. Pleas for gifts to the Emergency Food Pantry of the Des Moines Area Religious Council and other religious-based relief programs were made.

Maybe the smallest group of worshippers — a pastor and three other men — had the feeling that their brief service may have been as meaningful as any with full choir, majestic organ music, eloquent preaching and a capacity crowd.

It was an 8:30 a.m. service at the emergency operations center in East High School in Des Moines, led by the Rev. Duane Gibson, pastor of First Baptist Church. The men formed a circle of chairs in a classroom, talked about whatever was in their hearts, then joined hands and prayed. Not all the male eyes remained dry.

Living Simply

Gibson said this is a time to reach out to help others and experience what is really important. "For a short time we can become like Mother Teresa. For a short time we can live simply, that others may simply live, and have hope. We can show love and concern without preaching."

At the Spanish Mass at Visitation Catholic Church, East Ninth Street and Garfield

Avenue, Padre David, an American with the Christian Foundation for the Poor and Aging, told the congregation the floods show that "humans don't have control of the physical world."

People who are superstitious, he said, may say the disaster is a punishment from God. But he said the Christian God doesn't operate that way.

The priest said floods are simply a natural occurrence. During such times, however, people have an opportunity to discover how much good is in their hearts, and those who take advantage of the chance to help others will be rewarded.

He told a parable whose punch line was: "The evil you do stays with you, but the good returns to you."

Neighbors Helping

"We are making it," said the Rev. Alden Hebard, associate pastor at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 4126 Ingersoll Ave. "We've learned bodily surviv-

al is the first priority."

He pointed to positive aspects of a negative time. "Neighbors are helping neighbors. . . . Sister churches from 10 states have called us to ask what they can do to help."

Plymouth worshipers managed some much-needed laughs. Hebard began the sermon with, "Well, aren't we all going to have the stories to tell our grandchildren?" He told the story of a victim of the great Johnstown, Pa., flood. In heaven, the man kept pestering St. Peter to let him tell his great flood story. Finally, Peter assembled everyone for the telling. "Oh, by the way," St. Peter whispered to the man, "that old guy on the front row is Noah."

Hebard said a question on many people's minds is, "Pastor, what have we done to deserve this?"

"Nothing," was Hebard's answer. "Disaster strikes. The rain falls on the just and the unjust."

In his sermon on "God is Speaking to Us in the Floods" the Rev. John Palmer, senior pastor of First Assembly of God, 2725 Merle Hay Road, combined compassion and prophet-like confrontation.

"There is a sovereign God who is sending the rain," said Palmer to 1,000 or so worshippers in the second Sunday service. "God could have turned off the faucet last Saturday. Then why didn't he? I don't know. Perhaps he is trying to get our attention."

Palmer stressed the need for Christians to unite to aid the flood victims. He outlined a massive effort being put together by many churches and headquartered at First Assembly. And, like Hebard, he quoted the Scripture about the rain falling on the just and the unjust.

Palmer said, "God is more concerned about the condition of our souls than our stuff. It is our soul that is eternal, but our houses will someday go."

The Des Moines Register

Today

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 1994 SECTION

- ◆ COMICS — 3T
- ◆ TV LISTINGS — 4T
- ◆ CLASSIFIEDS — 5T



Conlins head down the aisle in style



Roxanne and James Conlin will celebrate their anniversary with a church wedding.

By MELINDA VOSS
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

Rumpets will flourish. The bride will sweep down the aisle in an exquisite, off-the-shoulder, one-of-a-kind European-designed wedding gown. The groom will be in tails.

And most likely, the stately Gothic-style Plymouth Congregational Church — a perfect place for a traditional, no-holds-barred, black-tie wedding — will be filled to the rafters.

Roxanne Barton Conlin, 49, a well-known feminist, a former U.S. attorney, a one-time political candidate, a national figure in lawyers' circles, has dreamed for years of a fancy wedding.

"I've had it all planned out since I was 12," she says.

To celebrate her 30th wedding anniversary, she's creating the wedding of her dreams.

And in true Roxanne style, she is defying one or two rules of etiquette, rejoicing that an unconventional marriage remains strong after three decades and laughing a lot.

"There is a part of this that is tongue-in-cheek. In our family, a value has always been a sense of humor. But mostly it's pretty serious in the sense we do love each other very much and we do intend to have another 30 or 60 years together," she says.

In a letter mailed last week, Conlin and her husband, James, invited about 1,400 friends and relatives in Iowa and around the country to witness the renewal of their marriage vows. The elaborate ceremony will be at 7 p.m. March 9.

The couple will honeymoon in Paris, though James — who hates flying — says he wants to persuade the pilot to taxi all the way.

Fancy invitations will follow later, the letter says, but it alerts guests to mark their calendars now and explains why it's all happening.

"I am a child of the fifties, raised on the Cinderella myth and Barbie bridal dolls," the letter says. "I expected and intended to have an enormous wedding wearing a white gown with a long train and attended by numerous bridesmaids wearing lime green taffeta."

Instead, the Conlins were married by a justice of the peace in a back room with peeling linoleum and two witnesses. "It was all we had the time and money for," she explains.

Roxanne was 19 and in Drake University Law School. James was 23 and passing through Des Moines from his family's home in Fort Dodge to an Arizona college where he pretended to go to school.

"My social schedule was too burdensome to keep up with the scholastic demands," recalls James, who ultimately attend-

Roxanne and James Conlin will renew their vows.

ed seven colleges without earning a degree.

Introduced by a mutual friend on a Friday, they picked up a marriage license the following Monday and planned to marry that Saturday. Their parents objected strenuously. Roxanne and James delayed the ceremony — for a week. They married the following Saturday, March 21, 1964.

Why the rush?

"Just animal magnetism," explains James. "I think both of us are the type of people once we make up our mind, we do it and don't look back."

Roxanne agrees the chemistry was undeniably strong. James bowled her over. "He was an unusual man. Nothing about my being in law school distressed him. I was always testing people at that time about how they viewed women. We talked about roles. He didn't flinch when I told him, 'You have to understand I do not cook, I do not clean, I do not wash, I do not iron. And I never will.' He said, 'OK, fine.'"

By most standards, the Conlins have an unconventional marriage. Though they have raised four children and now dote on three grandchildren, they lead separate lives to a

large degree. That's obvious from the guest list. Each compiled about 700 names. Comparing the two lists, they discovered only five or so names in common.

"For the kind of marriage we wanted to create, we were without role models," Roxanne says.

So, how did it work?

"Sometimes, it was very difficult. We've had ups and downs. We've had times when we practically could not stand each other. But we're both very stubborn. Having a successful marriage was important. Now, we genuinely like each other — *most of the time*," she says.

So, that's the "for-better-and-for-worse" part. The Conlins have also lived the "in-sickness-and-in-health" part. In recent years, she battled cancer, and he almost died twice because of a nonmalignant tumor.

They also lived the "for-richer-and-for-poorer" business. Starting out, they had an income of \$1,300 a year. Now, they're well off, to say the least. "We always expected that we would be successful," she says.

A past president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, a one-time gubernatorial candidate, she now is in private practice, handling personal injury and women's rights lawsuits, among others.

He's president and owner of three businesses. Besides managing condominiums, apartment buildings, strip malls and homes, James owns a construction firm and several Grease Monkey oil-change shops in the area. Recently, he made an unsuccessful bid for at an-large seat on the Des Moines City Council.

Roxanne started planning her wedding four months ago. She picked up bridal magazines at airports during her business travels.

For those up on their rules of etiquette, Roxanne says she understands the official arbiters of standards would gasp in horror that the renewal ceremony is fancier than the original.

"I just want everybody to know I know the rule, and I don't care," she says.

Yet, she is making some accommodations. "I'll have a long veil with a little crown. I wanted a bigger crown, but they said it would be tacky, so I gave in," she says. "I'm going to try hard not to lap over into tackiness, which is very easy for me to do."

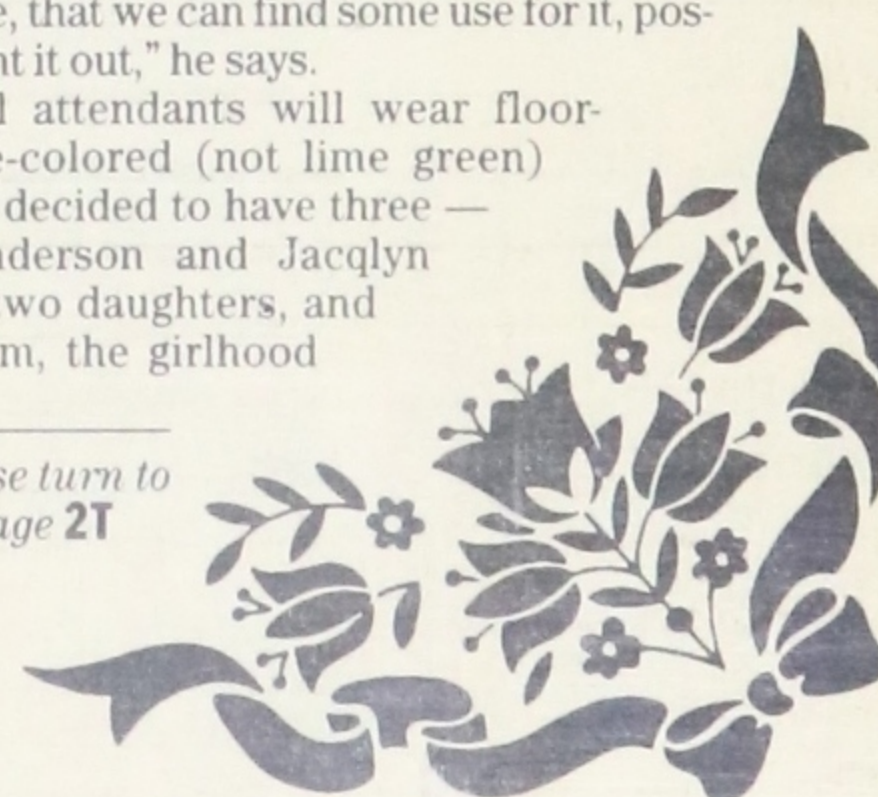
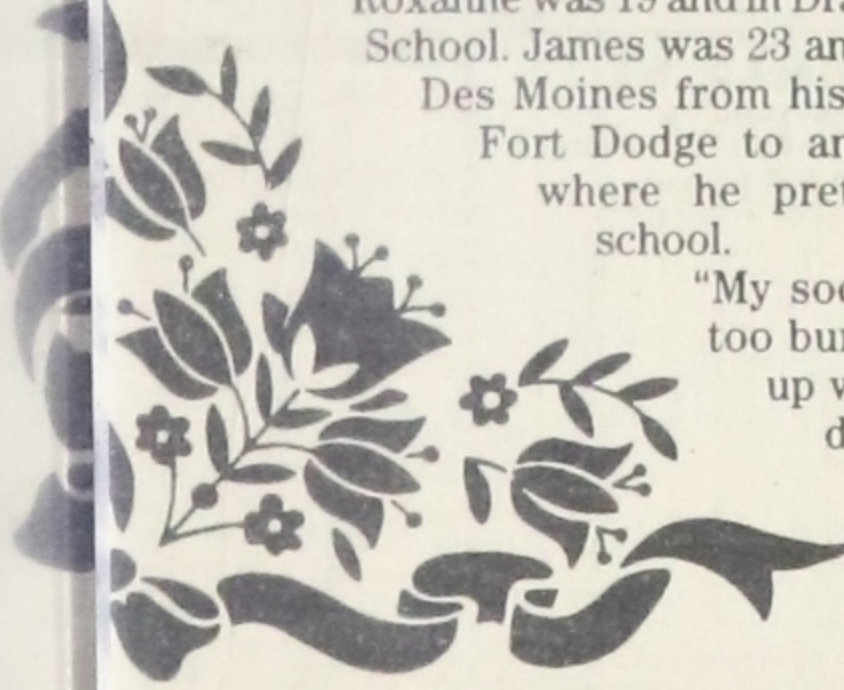
Finding the dream gown took some time. After visiting bridal shops around the country during her business travels, a friend convinced her to go to a New York designer shop. She narrowed it to three, but couldn't decide.

Ever the democrat, she took a straw poll of all those present in the bridal shop, she says. And the decision was made.

Though James was with her in New York when she bought the dress, he hasn't seen it — or the bill. "I haven't asked her what it cost because I'm afraid. I just hope it's recyclable, that we can find some use for it, possibly even rent it out," he says.

Her bridal attendants will wear floor-length, wine-colored (not lime green) dresses. She decided to have three — Deborah Anderson and Jacquelyn Conlin, her two daughters, and Sara Ketchum, the girlhood

CONLIN Please turn to
Page 2T



After 30 years, they will have dream wedding

CONLIN

Continued from Page 1T

friend who stood up with her at her original wedding. The groom's attendants will be Douglas Klein and James Barton Conlin, their two sons, and Tom Groff, who was best man 30 years ago.

The reception will include dinner and an orchestra at the Savery Hotel.

Figuring out the guest list has been the biggest challenge, she says. "I said to Jim, 'We're out of control. We've got to cut this list.' So he did, he cut six people and added seven. That's how it's been going.

"One of the terrors is when you have worked so long in a community, you risk leaving people out you wouldn't leave out if you had remembered them. In fact, it was about the fourth or fifth time through the list when we realized we had left out my mother. She knows about it, but it would be nice if she got an invitation, don't you think?"

On the issue of gifts, she is adamant. She doesn't want any. In the

She sees having a fancy wedding as upholding her long-held feminist views.

letter, she says, "If you feel you must do something, please make a contribution to your own favorite cause, organization or charity." Or she suggests contributions to the memorial fund for Phillis Etheridge Porter at the Animal Rescue League of Iowa, which supports pets in nursing and group homes for individuals who can't afford the companionship of animals. Porter was Roxanne's secretary who died of cancer.

She sees having a fancy wedding as upholding her long-held feminist views.

"Equality means you get to do what you want," she says. "It never has meant that you don't like men in general or one in particular or that you don't adore your children or that you don't want to wear a long white dress at your wedding. I have always rejected doctrinaire feminism which suggests that you have to be a certain way. It's all about choosing.

"And I'm choosing to have a big wedding," she says.

"Besides," she adds: "I just love a big party."